Each year, thousands of students come to Lake Washington Institute of Technology (LWTech), ready to start the next chapter in their lives at the only public institute of technology in Washington state. Some are going into college straight from high school, while others are returning to college after time away to work, raise a family, or serve in our military. There is a common thread that leads them here – the desire to learn more, do more, and reach their goals. Our students come to LWTech because they are ready to make a change in their lives.

Over the past 60 years, LWTech has been helping students get to the next level in their careers by providing hands-on, workforce-ready, and innovative learning to students of all ages. We’ve done this by remaining affordable and by providing programs that transfer. LWTech is 33-percent less expensive than the flagship university (for full-time students, 12 credits, living with a parent). All of our associate degree programs have public articulation and transfer opportunities to other state colleges and universities.

Our hands-on approach to applied learning prepares our students for today’s careers and tomorrow’s opportunities. We offer three bachelor’s degrees (Public Health; Applied Design Technology; and Transportation, Logistics and Supply Chain Management), 38 associate degrees, and 80 professional certificates in 39 areas of study.

This past year, we have seen an increased student persistence rate, all while being met head-on with an ongoing decline in state funding for our community and technical colleges. Funding for our state colleges is 47.8 percent lower than the pre-recession budget in 2007. Although this made it challenging from an operations standpoint, we were still able to accomplish many great things on our campuses this year due to our dedicated faculty and staff.

On our Kirkland campus, we began making plans to open a Center of Excellence for Veteran Student Success in the fall of 2016, which is funded by a grant from the Department of Education. We also started our first year of planning for the new Photonics Technology certificate, which is funded through a National Science Foundation (NSF) grant. Finally, we put plans in place to create and launch the Design, Innovation, Research, and Technology (DIRT) lab, which will establish a maker space for students in Engineering Graphics to collaborate in a hands-on lab.

The future is bright at LWTech, and can be even brighter with your support. I invite you to get involved with our faculty, staff, and programs. Whether it’s by donating to our Foundation to provide student scholarships, advocating on behalf of our college, offering internship opportunities, or volunteering for our advisory committees, your support is greatly appreciated, and will make a difference in the lives of so many.

With appreciation,
It’s an honor and privilege to serve on the LWTech Board of Trustees. The work we do, along with the faculty and staff, truly makes a difference in the lives of students. As the only public Institute of Technology in Washington state, students choose LWTech because they are ready to make a change in their careers — and their lives. The trustees appreciate the work each person at the college does to help students realize their educational goals.

Trustees are often asked about the college, and we are always excited to share the amazing stories of our students, faculty, and staff. Some of the great joys we experienced this past year included awarding tenure to three deserving faculty members, honoring students nominated to the Phi Theta Kappa All-Washington Academic Team, and nominating an exceptional student candidate for the Washington State Association of College Trustees Transforming Lives Award.

Advocating on behalf of the college is something that we take very seriously. We strive to make a strong and positive impact for LWTech by meeting with legislative representatives during challenging legislative sessions, like this past year. We also meet regularly with state and national representatives, local business leaders, and collaborate with the LWTech Foundation Board, in partnership with LWTech President, Dr. Morrison Goings, to advocate on behalf of the college. We believe that bringing LWTech's stories and influence to the broader community will forge deeper connections — both locally and nationally.

Our hope, as you read through this report, and as you learn more about the great work being done at LWTech, is that you too will become an advocate for the college. Together, we can keep growing student success!

2015-2016 Board of Trustees
Anne Hamilton, Chair
Dr. Lynette D. Jones, Vice Chair
Neil Johnson
Darrell S. Mitsunaga
Bruce J. Reid
Dear Friends,

On behalf of the LWTech Foundation Board of Directors, I would like to thank you for your incredible support of LWTech. As a result of your generosity, the LWTech Foundation (Foundation) celebrated a stellar year of actively engaging businesses and the community in supporting LWTech, its students, and its work in building a strong economy.

Preparing our Nurses – Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree Campaign: The Foundation proudly launched a private startup campaign for a critical community need; a Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at LWTech. Campaign leadership includes Co-Chairs Neil Johnson, RN, BSN, MSA, EvergreenHealth Chief Operating Officer, and LWTech Trustee; and Teddy Overleeose, Artist, Community Leader, and LWTech Foundation Board Member. The Honorable Rosemary McAuliffe, Washington State Senator, serves as Honorary Co-Chair of this important effort.

The Tjossem Family Endowed Scholarship Fund: Community leaders Robert and Linda Tjossem announced the creation of the Tjossem Family Endowed Scholarship Fund at the LWTech Foundation Scholarship Reception in May 2016. This generous gift will provide five annual student scholarships in perpetuity.

Student Scholarships: The promise of a better life begins with education. This past year, the Foundation proudly awarded more than $173,000 in student scholarships to highly motivated, hardworking students attending LWTech.

Seeds of Growth – 2015 Bright Futures Benefit Breakfast: In November, our annual fundraising event, with our presenting sponsor Microsoft, raised a record-breaking $120,000 for student scholarships, program support, and the student emergency fund. The program featured inspiring student testimonials, a special presentation honoring Brian Peierls of The Peierls Foundation for 20 years of giving, and a delicious breakfast prepared by LWTech’s talented culinary and baking arts students.

Supporting Programs: The Foundation continues to provide support to terrific programs on campus, by sending students to regional and national competitions, providing key program resources and equipment, offering student emergency assistance, and helping faculty and staff keep their skills current through professional education.

Your support makes a difference! With your continued partnership, we are able to ensure students have the opportunity for growth and success. We look forward to another year of creating bright futures for students and industry in our community.

Laura Wildfong, LWTech Foundation President
Dear Friends,

What an inspirational year!

As Executive Director of the Foundation, I have the honor to witness the impact of your generosity on a daily basis. Your gifts of time, talent, and treasure are truly transforming the lives of our students. I’d like to share just a few examples with you.

- The Foundation received a moving note from scholarship recipient Manisha Walia. Walia graduated with her two-year transfer degree in Dental Hygiene in 2015. She is happily and successfully working full-time in her chosen field. Further, she’s chosen to continue her education with plans to graduate with a bachelor’s degree in Dental Hygiene in fall 2016.

- The Foundation’s student emergency fund was able to assist a full-time student with a small, one-time grant for essential living expenses when she was unable to work while undergoing cancer treatments. She is still in school today and on track to graduate in winter 2017.

- Scholarship recipient and Computer Security Network Technician student Paige Houston framed her scholarship award letter. According to Houston, the scholarship provided her with critical funds to complete her academic program as well as increased confidence and new hope for the future.

- A scholarship recipient and recent graduate of the Diesel and Heavy Equipment Technician program made an anonymous donation to the Foundation simply stating his sincere gratitude for the scholarship and a strong desire to “pay it forward.”

Thank you for your incredible generosity to the Foundation! YOU are making a difference in the lives of our students.
Our Mission
To prepare students for today’s careers and tomorrow’s opportunities

Our Vision
To be the college of choice for workforce education

Vision Narrative
LWTech is recognized by students, business, community, and peer organizations as the choice for innovative workforce education because we:

• Value diversity and welcome students from all backgrounds and levels of educational attainment.
• Create educational opportunities and support for students to achieve success and prepare for life-long learning.
• Distinguish ourselves by offering creative, cutting-edge, hands-on education.
• Offer students choices to achieve their educational goals through applied, pathway-based education from basic education and certificate programs to baccalaureate degrees.
• Teach using the latest industry standards and cross-discipline approaches to prepare students for immediate and future employment.
• Empower faculty and staff to reach their potential in a supportive environment that values collaboration, transparency, respect, and integrity.
• Work in partnership with business and industry as well as local and global organizations to foster economic vitality and create prosperous communities.
• Thrive in state-of-the-art facilities that use the latest learning and business technologies to enhance the delivery of education and our internal operations.
• Implement innovations that result in a financially-sustainable organization.

Core Themes
Pathways
LWTech is accessible to the community by providing multiple entrance points and educational pathways. The college is a conduit for students to upgrade their skills, transition into new careers, or further their education and training.

Student Achievement
At LWTech, students gain the skills and knowledge needed to achieve their educational goals and to participate in the workforce.

External Engagement
LWTech forms partnerships with governmental and community organizations, educational institutions, business, and labor in order to effectively support the Institution’s mission.

College Community
LWTech provides a safe, supported and engaging learning environment for students and work environment for faculty and staff.
Students at LWTEch experience invaluable hands-on learning in classrooms and labs. However, many students look beyond our classrooms to gain real-world experience in the community. These opportunities inspire them to build important connections, gain confidence, and challenge themselves.

Community Involvement and Service

Students at LWTEch are encouraged to extend their learning involvement and do so in a variety of ways. Our Digital Gaming and Media students showcased their creative talents at high-profile events such as Power of Play and PAX. PAX is one of the largest gaming events in North America.

Cell Biology students presented research results at the Community College Undergraduate Research Initiative Colloquium at Volunteer State Community College in Nashville, Tennessee, and at University of Washington's Undergraduate Research Symposium in Seattle.

LWTEch students also gave back to the community in the form of public service. Students from the Bachelor of Science in Public Health program's club organized a school supply drive that donated more than 200 items to Mary’s Place, a local non-profit agency that helps homeless women and families.

Our Fitness Specialist/Personal Trainer program students and faculty donated 530 pounds of food in November to Hopelink as a result of their Fall Food Drive.

Competitions

Eight Culinary Arts students took home bronze, gold, and silver medals at the American Culinary Federation/Washington State Chefs Association Culinary Salon Competition at Bellingham Technical College. Baking Arts students also won awards at the Washington State Sugar Artists cake show in Everett.

LWTEch Dental Hygiene student, Karen Dong, won first place for her presentation at Washington State Dental Hygienists’ Association’s Table Clinic Competition. Her topic, leukocyte and platelet-rich fibrin in regenerative dentistry, involved a new blood product from patients that can improve soft tissue and bone regeneration.

Recognition

This past year, LWTEch Nursing program student Tiffany Ruiz and Marc Allen, Diesel and Heavy Equipment/Welding Technology student, were named to the Phi Theta Kappa 2016 All-Washington Academic Team!

LWTEch Nursing program student Arianda Crosby received recognition at the Washington State Association of College Trustees 2016 Transforming Lives Awards dinner in Olympia. The annual award recognizes current students and alumni who have overcome barriers to reach their academic goals.
Creating relationships with community and business leaders is a top priority for our college. Building these important connections creates opportunities for our students while they’re at LWTech as well as after they graduate. Over the past year, LWTech President, Dr. Morrison Goings, college leadership, faculty, and staff connected with many community and business leaders from near and far.

**We Connected with Healthcare Industry Leaders**

Dr. Morrison Goings strengthened our connections and increased awareness of our vast School of Health Sciences programs over the past year. These programs include the state’s only Associate of Applied Science degree in Funeral Service Education and our Bachelor of Applied Science in Public Health. She networked with healthcare industry leaders through participation in Washington Health Care Authority’s Health Innovation Leadership Network, which is made up of representatives from 50 providers, businesses, health plans, consumers, community and government entities, and tribes. John Wiesman, Washington State Secretary of Health, visited the Kirkland campus to learn more about our Bachelor of Applied Science in Public Health program. We were honored to welcome Robert Malte, CEO of EvergreenHealth, as our keynote speaker at the 2016 LWTech Commencement Ceremony. EvergreenHealth offers our students opportunities for internships, research projects, and employment after graduation.

**We Strengthened Relationships with Technology Industry Leaders**

Our LWTech Redmond and Kirkland campuses are located in the epicenter of technology. We took advantage of our close proximity to Microsoft and Google and engaged with both industry giants to bring awareness to our programs. Our School of Information Technology and School of Science, Engineering, and Math faculty and students benefit as a result of our industry connections. In February, Dr. Morrison Goings attended Google’s expansion completion Open House along with Congresswoman DelBene, Kirkland City Manager Kurt Triplett, Kirkland Mayor Amy Walen, and Governor Jay Inslee.

**We Partnered with Higher Education Leaders**

By keeping our finger on the pulse of higher education, we can continue to incorporate innovation into our offerings and be on top of educational trends. We partnered with Corporate and Workforce Training at Everett Community College and Cascadia College to bring cutting-edge continuing education opportunities to the eastside at our Redmond campus. This new partnership, called the Corporate Continuing Education Center-Eastside (CCEC-Eastside), created a venue for working professionals to enhance their professional development skills or forge a new career path. Classes began Spring quarter.

**We Advocated for College Funding and Built Relationships with Congressional and State Representatives**

When it comes to making change happen through state and federal laws and funding higher education initiatives, our college makes it a priority to connect with representatives in person to advocate for our students’ and college’s needs. We welcomed these leaders to our campus this past year, where they connected with Dr. Morrison Goings, faculty, and staff: House Appropriations Chair Rep. Hans Dunshee, Senate Ways and Means Chair Sen. Andy Hill, and Rep. Larry Springer.

Travis Johnston, staff to Senator Murray on the HELP Committee (Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions), visited our Redmond and Kirkland campuses to see our nationally recognized I-BEST programs in action.
Dr. Morrison Goings was a panelist at the League of Education Voters annual breakfast where she spoke about the skills gap and how the underfunding of state, community, and technical colleges is a direct correlation to that gap.

We Engaged with Community and Business Leaders


Dr. Morrison Goings currently serves on the Seattle Goodwill Board of Directors and the OneRedmond Board. She’s also an influential steering committee member through Leadership Eastside’s 2016 Innovation Summit for the Eastside Civic Incubator.

We Hosted Leaders in Higher Education, Architecture, and the Community

Several times per year, community groups and organizations hold meetings on our Kirkland campus. Not only does this bring awareness to the community regarding our college and programs, it builds a bridge to industry leaders. The college hosted several business meetings, including the Washington Association of Community and Technical Colleges Presidents Meeting, which included presidents from 33 other community and technical colleges in Washington state.

High School counselors are the key to connecting local students with LWTech’s High School and college programs. In January, we welcomed more than 35 Lake Washington School District counselors for a district-wide strategic meeting.

In February, the Washington State Board for Architects held its regular public meeting on our Kirkland campus for the first time. This created an opportunity for students to participate in a Q&A with successful, knowledgeable architects. The board members engaged with our students, toured the campus, and praised our Architectural Technology program.

Our talented culinary and baking students, under the direction of instructional faculty, prepared a delicious buffet for the third year in a row for the Greater Kirkland Area Chamber of Commerce’s Monthly Business Networking Luncheon on our Kirkland campus at Chef City Grill. This influential group got to experience, see, and taste our Culinary and Baking programs in action.

We Welcomed International Delegations and Programs

The world is more interconnected than ever due to advances in technology. Collaborating with schools around the world and continuing to work on global competency for our programs led us to welcoming these three international program groups to the Kirkland campus from Japan and China: Tongling No. 1 Senior High School student group, Changzhou Institute of Mechatronic Technology, and Kanagawa Institute of Technology for Multimedia Design & Production.
LWTech is the only public institute of technology in Washington state that primarily grants two-year associate degrees and certificates. LWTech is accredited at both the Associate and Baccalaureate Degree levels by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities. Students can choose from 3 baccalaureate degrees, 38 associate degrees, and 80 professional certificates in 39 areas of study.

LWTech is committed to supporting student achievement through centralized campus initiatives that include: grant development; the Completion Initiative; the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Plan; and our Strategic Plan.

Grants

LWTech supports student success through the pursuit of grants and other outside partnerships. Grant work in the 2015-16 academic year focused on supporting campus initiatives and the Strategic Plan.

Achieving the Dream National Reform Network selected LWTech to be part of their Open Educational Resources Initiative. The initiative, which involves 38 community colleges in 13 states, is designed to help remove financial roadblocks that can derail students’ progress and spur improvements that will increase the likelihood of degree and certificate completion. LWTech received $100,000 to convert new transfer degrees using openly licensed content in Engineering and Biology. This work is funded by a consortium of investors that includes the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Great Lakes Higher Education Guaranty Corporation, the Shelter Hill Foundation, and the Speedwell Foundation.

LWTech received $150,000 from College Spark Washington to improve intake and placement services for all students who intend to enroll in college-level English and math coursework. This new process replaces the traditional high-stakes COMPASS placement test and allows students to self-select math and English placements using computer forms or advisor-administered questionnaires. Students review the results and choose their own placement rather than having it imposed on them. LWTech will also use this grant funding to consolidate all intake services into one location on the Kirkland campus, the Smart Start Student Welcome Center.

In addition to Foundation grants, LWTech receives funding from the Department of Education and National Science Foundation (NSF). In the 2015-16 academic year, the college launched its Center of Excellence for Veteran Student Success (CEVSS) with $367,379 in funding from the Department of Education’s Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE) program. This award complements our long-standing TRiO Projects funded by the Department of Education over a five-year period, including $1.1 million for student support services and $1,154,420 for support services for students with disabilities. The mission of TRiO at LWTech is to increase the retention, graduation and transfer rates of eligible students.

Since receiving its first-ever awards from the National Science Foundation in the 2014-15 academic year, LWTech has launched the Future Tech Stars NSF S-STEM Scholarship Program (Future Tech Stars). Last year, 24 low-income, academically talented students received a scholarship to help students earn a degree that will lead to high-wage, high-demand jobs. The included fields are multimedia design and production, digital gaming, information technology and applications development, and computer security and network technology.

The college is also preparing to launch its first Photonics Technology certificate in Washington state, with $199,380 in funding from the NSF. Photonics is the practical application of light, including lasers. This project will produce technicians prepared to meet the needs of our region’s high-tech employers.
Completion Initiative

The Completion Initiative is a multi-year plan focused on improving the rate at which LWTech students attain degrees or certificates. The Completion Initiative focuses on high-impact practices using institutional data to inform how and where we make changes to college policies, procedures, programming, and staffing.

The 2015-16 academic year showed tremendous strides in implementing next steps to improve student success. The pilot of case-managed advising showed consistent gains across all programs (up to a six-percent increase in student retention) and the college moved this model to all advising departments. Requiring case-managed advising provides improved services for students and faculty by establishing a single point of contact in student services.

The college also developed Degree Maps so that students can easily understand the transfer pathways available to them. With these degree maps (which will be posted on each program page as they are completed), students will be able to see all transfer options. LWTech currently offers at least one transfer opportunity to students in every associate degree program, and most programs have multiple options.

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Plan

In May 2015, LWTech adopted our Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Plan (EDIP). The EDIP provides a roadmap for work through fall 2017. To focus on this work, the college formed the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Advisory Committee (EDIAC).

Accomplished tasks in 2015-2016 include the following: establishing a Multicultural Center; recommending a job description for a Cabinet-Level position for diversity and equity, such as an Executive Director/Chief Diversity and Equity Officer; recommending roles and responsibilities of an Ombudsperson; professional development opportunities related to equity, diversity, and inclusion for all; creating a diversity webpage; and recommending that EDIAC members serve on hiring committees for all full-time faculty hires.

Strategic Plan

The 2013-2017 plan is guided by the college’s four core themes (Pathways, Student Achievement, External Engagement, and College Community), and articulates the long-term vision for LWTech, and steers the college’s decisions.

In 2015-16, LWTech conducted a comprehensive evaluation of the plan and developed an internal performance monitoring and tracking system. Performance tracking is updated on a regular basis and evaluators work closely with departments to develop and refine metrics aligned with strategic planning goals and department activities. Highlights from 2015-16 include new case-managed advising for all academic programs, new institutional grants awarded, a new website, new marketing campaigns, and increased employee satisfaction.
LWTech Enrollment Data: 2015-2016

Enrollment (full-time equivalent students) 3,365
Enrollment (total headcount) 6,573

White Students 3,431
Students of Color 2,238
Student Race Not Reported 900

Male 2,655
Female 3,918

Enrolled with a degree already earned (associate’s or higher) 1,747

Basic Skills 810
Other (enrichment, improve job skills, etc.) 814
Transfer 971
Workforce Training 3,978
Total Operating Budget $25,645,188  
Federal Grants for Financial Aid $3,217,080  
Federal Non-Financial Aid Grants $1,620,739  
State Grants $2,168,157  
Student Loans $4,165,841  
Scholarships Awarded $314,568  
Work Study (dollar amount) $184,962  

LW Tech Employee Information: 2015-2016

= 100 Employees

Median Student Age 30

Student: Faculty Ratio 20:1

Median Employee Age 49

Male 174
Female 313

White Employees 379
Employees of Color 108

Full-Time Teaching Faculty 84
Part-Time Teaching Faculty 249

Classified 106
Administrative 48
Each Year, the Foundation provides hundreds of merit and need-based scholarships for students enrolled or enrolling at LWTech. In this last academic year, the Foundation awarded more than $173,524 in scholarships and over $15,000 in emergency assistance to students in need. These scholarships can make the difference in whether students are able to complete their programs or not.

Feliz Arana has a busy life. She’s a full-time Certified Nursing Assistant by night at Harborview Medical Center, and a Pre-Nursing student by day at LWTech. And if that wasn’t enough, she is also a mom with two boys ages two and three.

Arana’s journey hasn’t been easy. Before she came to LWTech to study Pre-Nursing, she’d taken classes at three other community colleges. Not only was she taking classes, she was doing so while she was homeless off and on and working at a convenience store. This caused her to withdraw from college several times and re-take classes. A shelter in Tacoma helped her find a place to live near LWTech, and after visiting LWTech’s website, she decided she was ready to set her future by registering for the Nursing two-year transfer program, which prepares students for applying to a Bachelor’s of Science in Nursing program.

But financial struggles were making it difficult for Arana to persevere through her studies. LWTech Trustee Anne Hamilton, with the support of Neil Johnson and the Board of Trustees, created a Trustees’ Persistence Scholarship for students just like Arana to help them achieve their educational goals. This scholarship is for students who demonstrate persistence and overcome hardships to complete their degree, no matter what it takes. Arana received the scholarship through the Foundation, which awarded her $500 during her first quarter, and upon degree completion, she will receive another $500.

“This scholarship allowed me to purchase the things I needed for my class. It took a huge weight off my shoulders for sure. I had all of my books and supplies for the quarter. I was blessed to receive scholarships from the Foundation the first time I applied. I am forever thankful and will continue to apply as long as I am here at LWTech. I want to thank the donors and the Foundation for this opportunity,” said Arana.

Now Arana is setting more goals and on her way to complete her degree. Once she graduates, she’d like to work at EvergreenHealth in Kirkland, perhaps in Labor and Delivery.

“Feliz Arana is a great example of a student who benefits from our scholarships. She is truly an inspiration to so many. I can’t wait to see what she does next. I know she’s going to make a difference in so many lives,” said Anne Hamilton, LWTech Board of Trustees.
2016 LWTech Foundation Officers

2016 Board Officers

Laura Wildfong  President
Owner, Northwest Nurseries

Kate Butcher  Vice President
Manager, Culture–Coaching and Development at BitTitan

Diane Haelsig  Secretary
Retired Software Owner

Solomon Karmel  Treasurer
Branch Manager and DRP, First Allied Securities

Dave Ferguson  Immediate Past President
CEO, Gibberin

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Emily Bolen  Jerome Bruhn & Associates
Jason Darnell  RN, MSN, Swedish
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Sen. Rosemary McAuliffe  Washington State Senator
Ellen Miller-Wolfe  City of Kirkland
Teddy Overleese  Artist and Community Leader
Sherry Zins Calvert  Keiretsu Forum

Ex-Officio Directors

Amy Morrison Goings  Ed.D., President
Neil Johnson  Trustee Liaison to the Foundation
Zoe Melendez  MSN, LWTech Faculty
Ellen Miller-Wolfe  City of Kirkland
Elisabeth Sorensen  MPA, Executive Director
Bill Thomas  VP Administrative Services

Financial info

Revenue 2015-2016

Endowments  $170,832.17
Events  $114,178.50
Gifts  $194,728.63
Other  $51,207.46
Grand Total  $530,946.76

Expenses 2015-2016

Fundraising  $21,688.12
Insurance  $1,518.10
Programs  $143,462.12
Scholarships  $206,246.50
Grand Total  $382,914.84
The Foundation is proud to honor Josh Nesbit as the recipient of the 2016 LWTech Foundation Annual Distinguished Alumni Award. Created in 2013, the LWTech Foundation Distinguished Alumni Award is the highest honor the institution can bestow upon an alumnus in recognition of professional accomplishments as well as service to the college and the community.

Nesbit is a true LWTech success story, excelling as both a student and a former employee at LWTech for nine years. Nesbit graduated from the LWTech High School Academy and earned a two-year transfer degree from the Computer Security & Network Technician program at LWTech. He continued his education with a Bachelor’s of Science Degree in Applied Technology at Eastern Washington University and a Certificate of Project Management from University of Washington. He is currently enrolled in an MBA Program at Western Governors University.

In March, he left his position as Acting Chief Information Officer for an exciting new position as Senior Systems Administrator at Säzän Group in Seattle. Nesbit remarked, “I’ve had several great mentors during my time as a student, IT Technician, Specialist, Director, and even CIO. Even though I’ve completed an undergrad degree and am working on an MBA, it is my time at this school that I’ll forever cherish.”

LWTech President, Dr. Morrison Goings, proudly announced the creation of the Tjossem Family Endowed Scholarship Fund via a generous donation of $125,000 from community leaders Robert and Linda Tjossem at the Foundation’s Annual Scholarship Reception in May 2016.

Staunch supporters of workforce education, the Tjossems have deep roots in our community. Mr. Tjossem’s involvement with workforce education began nearly 50 years ago as a young Assistant Attorney General assigned to the Education Division. He quickly distinguished himself in this role, rising to the head of the division and representing the State Board for Community Colleges and the Community College System.

Following this success, Mr. and Mrs. Tjossem returned to our community and Mr. Tjossem entered private practice in Kirkland. As a partner at the Livengood Firm, he served as general counsel for the Lake Washington School District during the period of time the school district owned and operated the “Voc-Tech” that would later become Lake Washington Institute of Technology.

The Tjossems are passionate about the need for rigorous, focused, hands-on, practical training designed to prepare students for today’s careers and tomorrow’s opportunities. “Linda and I value LWTech’s innovative approach to workforce education, which successfully prepares students for immediate and future employment,” said Mr. Tjossem. “And as the son of an educator, I am a steadfast believer in the power of education.”

The Tjossems are passionate about the need for rigorous, focused, hands-on, practical training designed to prepare students for today’s careers and tomorrow’s opportunities.

Robert and Linda Tjossem with their first scholarship recipients, Valentin Vautier and Curtis Clarke, at the Foundation’s 2016 Scholarship Reception.

Robert and Linda Tjossem with their first scholarship recipients, Valentin Vautier and Curtis Clarke, at the Foundation’s 2016 Scholarship Reception.

Distinguished Alumnus – Josh Nesbit

Distinguished Alumnus – Josh Nesbit

Distinguished Alumnus – Josh Nesbit

Distinguished Alumnus – Josh Nesbit

Celebrating the Creation of the Tjossem Family Endowed Scholarship Fund

Distinguished Alumnus – Josh Nesbit

Distinguished Alumnus – Josh Nesbit

Distinguished Alumnus – Josh Nesbit

Distinguished Alumnus – Josh Nesbit

Celebrating the Creation of the Tjossem Family Endowed Scholarship Fund
The Foundation proudly honored Brian Peierls and The Peierls Foundation for an unprecedented 20 years of giving to LWTech with a Distinguished Friend of Lake Washington Institute of Technology Award at the 2015 Bright Futures Benefit Breakfast in November.

“It was a true privilege to recognize Brian Peierls and The Peierls Foundation who personify a strong commitment to students and educational achievement,” said LWTech President Dr. Morrison Goings in her remarks at the event. In lieu of a traditional plaque, Mr. Peierls was presented with bookends created by two students in LWTech’s Machine Technology program.

In 1996, Brian Peierls reached out to Marge Kykendoll, the director of what is now Lake Washington Institute of Technology’s High School Programs, with an interest in helping students from disadvantaged backgrounds gain access to education to change and shape their futures for the better.

Inspired, Peierls immediately began funding critical student needs with a generous $10,000 donation from his family foundation, The Peierls Foundation, to LWTech’s High School Programs.

Peierls and The Peierls Foundation continued to make investments to this important program, celebrating 20 years of giving in 2016. The impact of this transformative philanthropy includes:

- 140,000 bus passes so students could get to and from classes
- 100,000 hours of tutoring
- 2,400 emergency meals
- 275 grants for high school students to purchase uniforms, tools, and other equipment necessary for their programs
- Direct one-on-one substance abuse counseling to more than 150 students
- Child care for more than 50 students
- Financial assistance for 47 students attending leadership conferences
- 25 scholarships for students who aged out of the High School Program before completing their degrees or certificates
- 20 graduation ceremonies

LWTech Foundation Annual Scholarship Reception

May 10 marked the Foundation’s Third Annual Scholarship Reception, a popular and well-attended event held on campus that celebrates the magical combination of donors and scholars.

“Student scholarships are the heart and soul of the Foundation’s work,” said Laura Wildfong, Foundation Board President and donor. The evening culminated with the announcement of The Tjossem Family Endowed Scholarship Fund, which will fund five scholarships in perpetuity for students enrolled in a variety of workforce programs. Students Valentin Vautier and Curtis Clarke, the first recipients of the Tjossem Family Scholarship, expressed their gratitude during the reception. “On behalf of every scholarship recipient here tonight, we thank you for this wonderful support. You are creating opportunities for a lifetime and paving the way for students to realize their ambitions,” said Valentin Vautier.

Honoring The Peierls Foundation: 20 Years of Giving to LWTech

Brian Peierls speaks at the 2015 Bright Futures Benefit Breakfast.
A Big Thank You to Our 2015 Donors

Gifts of 100,000 +
Robert and Linda Tjossem

Gifts of 50,000 +
The Peierls Foundation

Gifts of 25,000 +
Dick and Diane Haelsig

Gifts of 10,000 +
Microsoft Corporation
Porsche Club of America Pacific North West Region
The Biella Foundation
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Dec. 2 Spring Scholarship Application Begins
Apr. 10 Spring Scholarship Application Deadline
Mar. 1 Kirkland Campus Open House
Feb. 3 Spring Scholarship Application Deadline
Apr. 10 Fall Scholarship Application Begins
Apr. 28-29 Kirkland Campus Open House
May 5-6 Spring Plant Sale
Jun. 9 Fall Scholarship Application Deadline

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