This past year has been unlike any other in recent history. Like you, our students, faculty and staff have been tested in ways that none of us could have imagined, and through it all, our community stood right beside us.

For more than seven years, Lake Washington Institute of Technology has been engaged in equity, diversity, and inclusion work. During this time, the college has spent a significant amount of time and resources to build a college community that is based on our values of respect, collaboration, inclusion, and innovation. We are proud to stand in solidarity with the Black community.

I have promised our college community that we will keep this work to dismantle systematic racism at the forefront. It is our responsibility as educators to teach inclusion and to prepare our students to be culturally competent and successful.

We know this work is important to you as our neighbors. After all, we have been a member of your community for more than 70 years. Our commitment to training students to be successful in their careers is unwavering, and you’ve been there right beside us all along the way. So it was no surprise that when our students needed assistance, our community immediately stepped up to help.

I feel incredibly honored that we are helping students achieve their educational goals. While these are challenging times, our students are resilient and strong. When the college moved to online classes, our students pivoted so they could continue their studies, and they created a robust online community with our faculty and staff, and with each other.

While they have adapted to this new normal, scholarships and program support are needed now, more than ever. I am incredibly grateful for your continued and unwavering support of our students and the college.

Just like you have been here for us, I want you to know that we are here for you. If you or a family member needs to retrain after being laid-off, or you want to update your credentials, we can help. We now offer 10 applied bachelor’s degrees, more than 40 associate degrees and 80 professional certificates, in 41 areas of study.

Thank you for your continued support of our students and the college. I hope you’ll visit our website at LWTech.edu to learn more about the programs we offer, and the amazing work of the LWTech Foundation.

With appreciation,

Dr. Amy Morrison,
LWTech President
On the Cover: A Physical Therapist Assistant student proves nothing will stop her progress as she practices proper body mechanics during her lab work, with safety measures in place during COVID-19 hybrid learning. (Credit: Edith Rojas)

Supporting the LWTech Community

A Message from the Board of Trustees

Laura Wildfong, Chair
Anne Hamilton, Vice Chair
Dr. Lynette D. Jones
Robert Malte
Darrell S. Mitsunaga

2019-2020

Board of Trustees

On behalf of LWTech’s Board of Trustees (Trustees), I want to sincerely thank you for the amazing support you’ve given to LWTech’s students this past year. When they needed you the most, you were there, without hesitation.

These are unprecedented times that our community, country, and the world are facing, as we are in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic and civil unrest. As the Trustees of LWTech, we are committed to ensuring the work of the college supports our students, employees, and diverse community that stands in solidarity with the Black community.

We are committed to the mission of the college, which is to prepare students for today’s careers and tomorrow’s opportunities. We see firsthand the incredible dedication of the faculty and staff as they strive to ensure that students complete their programs. We also have the privilege to meet with students, and hear their stories about what led them to getting their degrees and certificates at LWTech. These students are incredibly hard-working and dedicated, oftentimes overcoming significant barriers to attend college. When the COVID-19 pandemic impacted Kirkland, as the first community in the country with confirmed cases, we saw how quickly the college had to change course to not only ensure the safety of the students, faculty and staff, but every area of the college had to quickly change direction, and put plans in place, so students could continue and complete their coursework.

We are incredibly appreciative of the work of Dr. Morrison and the LWTech Foundation Board of Directors to create the Coronavirus Student Emergency Fund to support students directly impacted by COVID-19. Within days of the start of the crisis in Kirkland, funds were being raised for students through a matching program, spearheaded by LWTech Foundation donors, James Kinsella and Robert McNeal. Through their generosity, and the generosity of the community, students were able to receive much-needed financial assistance.

Whether it’s buying plants at the annual plant sale, visiting the student-run bakery and restaurant, or talking about the college that’s been your neighbor for more than 70 years, you are a part of the LWTech community, and the college is here to support you, just as you’ve supported students.

With appreciation,

Laura Wildfong

LWTech Board of Trustees Chair

A special thank you to LWTech and LWTech Foundation staff for their help in the creation of the 2019-2020 Annual Report, and to the students and faculty who through their awards, achievements, and amazing lives we are able to celebrate them today!
Dear Friends,

Thank you for your exceptional support of our students during this unprecedented time in our world. The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly affected all of our families, our businesses, our communities, and our way of life.

We began the 2019-2020 academic year with a successful Annual Bright Futures Benefit Breakfast in October 2019. This special event, raised a record-breaking $258,000 for student scholarships, instructional program support and the student emergency fund. We also honored longtime LWTech Foundation donors, Dick and Diane Haelsig, for a spectacular decade of incredible leadership and generosity to the college.

LWTech was the first campus impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic when our Nursing and Physical Therapist Assistant students were directly exposed to the virus during clinical learning rotations. As a result of your generous support, the LW Tech Foundation was able to immediately aid these students with assistance for groceries, rent and basic living expenses during their mandated 14-day self-quarantine.

As the crisis developed, more LWTech students began experiencing significant hardships related to the pandemic. Our students, many of whom are parents or sole providers of their families, lost wages and employment. Our veteran and work study students were also negatively impacted due to the college closure necessary to slowing the community spread of the virus.

In response to this crisis, longtime generous donors, James Kinsella and Robert McNeal, stepped up to provide a matching challenge grant of $25,000 to set up a student emergency fund to support LWTech students impacted by COVID-19. We are very grateful to James and Robert for their leadership, and to you, our wonderfully giving donors, for answering the call and raising over $70,000 in a very short period of time to help our students.

As a result of your giving, the Foundation also awarded 54 laptop scholarships to ensure students had the technology necessary to be successful for online learning.

Together, we will continue to support our students with scholarships, instructional program support and student emergency fund grants. Thank you for your transforming the lives of our students with your contributions. We are grateful for your understanding, partnership and support.

With gratitude,

**2020-21 Dates to Remember**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 26-30, 2020</td>
<td>2020 Bright Futures Benefit WEEK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 1, 2020</td>
<td>Spring 2021 Scholarship Application Begins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 4, 2021</td>
<td>Spring 2021 Scholarship Application Ends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring 2021 TBD</td>
<td>Annual LWTech Open House</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 30, 2021</td>
<td>Fall 2021 Scholarship Application Begins</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2019-20 Executive Committee
Clara Hollin  
President  
Financial Planner, Lincoln Financial Advisors
Bill Shelby  
Vice President/ Scholarship Committee Chair  
Developer, StockCharts.com
Diane Haelsig  
Immediate Past President  
Retired Software Company Founder
John Feistner  
Treasurer  
Director of Engagement & Giving, Archdiocese of Seattle
Dan Frost, DDS  
Secretary  
Dentist, Frost Family Dentistry
Diane Toomey  
Bright Futures Benefit Breakfast Chair  
Vice President of Human Resources, PAC Worldwide

2019-20 Board Members
David Alskog  
Partner, Livengood Alskog
Glenn Gardner  
President and General Manager, Synrad
Ann Habernigg  
Assistant General Counsel, Microsoft
Gina Haggerty  
Chief Financial Officer, Prism Worldwide
Kathy Katzenberger  
Hospice Manager, EvergreenHealth
Walt Krueger  
Attorney, Krueger Beck, PLLC
Nazanin Nabaie  
Dental Hygienist, Implant & Periodontic Specialists
Brenda Nunes  
Keller Williams Eastside, Brenda Nunes KW Nunes Group
Kristen Overleese  
President, KBA, Inc.

Ex-Officio Directors
Nolan Koreski  
Professor Emeritus, LWTech
Amy Morrison Ed.D.  
President, LWTech
Elisabeth Sorensen  
Executive Director, LWTech Foundation
Bruce Riveland  
VP, Administrative Services, LWTech
Dr. Lynette Jones  
LWTech Board of Trustee Liaison

2019-2020 LWTech Foundation Officers

Financial info

Revenue 2019-2020
- Endowments $177,530.10
- Events $210,183.39
- Gifts $1,472,637.75
- Other $14,206.00
Grand Total $1,874,557.24

Expenses 2019-2020
- Fundraising $15,501.77
- Insurance $11,065.00
- Programs $117,421.11
- Scholarships $424,400.24
Grand Total $568,388.12

Event Dates:
- April 30-May 1, 2021; May 7-8, 2021: Spring Plant Sale
- July 15, 2021: Fall 2021 Scholarship Application Ends
- Nov. 2, 2021: 2021 Bright Futures Benefit Breakfast
Mission & Vision Statements
What Drives Our Purpose

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.

LWTech Mission
To prepare students for today’s careers and tomorrow’s opportunities.

LWTech Vision
To be the college of choice for workforce education.

Foundation Mission
To actively engage business and the community in supporting LWTech, its students, and its role in building a strong economy.

Core Values

- **Inclusive**: We intentionally create a welcoming environment where all feel a sense of belonging.

- **Innovative**: We are leaders in maximizing opportunities to create a thriving college community.

- **Collaborative**: We are open to change and work together to achieve success for all.

- **Respectful**: We engage others with acceptance, open-mindedness, courtesy, and care.

A proud LWTech graduate from our 2019 Commencement, reminds us of how much we missed celebrating our graduates at commencement this year! We look forward to next year when we can hopefully commemorate BOTH 2020 and 2021!
In Memoriam
Honoring the lives and generosity of Linda Tjossem and Elling Halvorson

LINDA TJOSSEM
1941-2020
Linda Tjossem, philanthropist, teacher, and longtime stalwart supporter of LWTech, died on January 2, 2020 after a short and unexpected illness.

Longtime community leaders and advocates for technical education, Linda and her husband, Bob, generously established The Tjossem Family Endowed Scholarship Fund. This Fund is the LWTech Foundation's largest scholarship fund, which provides an unprecedented 22 scholarships to hardworking, highly motivated students in perpetuity. Linda and Bob's incredible leadership was recognized at the Annual Scholarship Reception in 2016 and 2017, and at the Annual Bright Futures Benefit Breakfast in 2018.

“Linda understood the power of education and the impact it can make on a person’s life,” said Dr. Amy Morrison, president, LWTech. “She will be fondly remembered for her generous spirit and tremendous commitment to supporting students.”

ELLING HALVORSON
1932-2020

In addition to numerous leadership roles in the aviation industry and communities of Kirkland, Washington and Las Vegas, Nevada, Elling served with distinction as a Trustee of LWTech for eight years.

Together with his wife, Barbara, they provided the lead gift for the LWTech Foundation’s Bachelor of Science in Nursing Startup Major Gift Campaign, and established The Elling and Barbara Halvorson Endowed Scholarship for Outstanding Nursing Students. Elling was named as the first-ever Lake Washington Institute of Technology Trustee Emeritus, for his exemplary service to the college.

“We often refer to Elling as the father of the Institute of Technology,” said Dr. Amy Morrison, president, LWTech. “Elling predicted the demand for pragmatic bachelor’s degrees for our local students, and today we are Washington state’s only public institute of technology with ten applied bachelor’s degrees. Elling challenged our college to take a major leap forward, to change our name, and expand our offerings to the institute we are today. We are forever grateful for his innovative spirit and support.”
Scholarships

Keep Goals Within Reach and Inspire Greater Potential

David Salgado

Bright Futures Scholarship

First-generation college student, David Gonzalez Salgado, came to LWTech in the fall of 2008 to take English as a Second Language (ESL) courses. Having immigrated from Mexico at the age of 19, Salgado had always wanted to pursue higher education, but because he didn’t speak English, he wasn’t sure that would be possible. Determined to fulfill his dream of getting an education, Salgado pursued his associate degree at Wenatchee College, but found himself unable to pay for his college-level courses. Salgado would soon join the US Army Reserves to qualify for the GI Bill from the Veteran Benefits Administration (VA).

While at Wenatchee College, Salgado learned about LWTech’s Bachelor of Applied Science in Transportation, Logistics, and Supply Chain Management degree. Having had a great experience in his ESL classes, and with LWTech staff, Salgado knew he had to attend an orientation.

“I wasn’t even done with my associate’s program,” said Salgado. “But I was really interested and wanted to know what the requirements were and what classes I needed to take.”

Scholarships are not just about awarding financial assistance. They help students reach their goals and pursue their dreams. Here, three LWTech scholars share their stories and inspiration for continuing their education. These students are proof that no matter what your interest or background may be, you not only have a program waiting for you at LWTech, but there are also scholarship opportunities available to help you succeed, and a promising future when you graduate.
Salgado began his bachelor’s degree at LWTech in the fall of 2018. Since then, Salgado has actively encouraged his co-workers and friends to go back to school, and for those in his line of work to enroll in his bachelor’s program.

Earlier this year, Salgado received the Bright Futures Scholarship sponsored by LWTech Foundation donors, Ken Boyer and Charles and Susan Stillman.

“My tuition comes out of pocket since I don’t qualify for FAFSA,” said Salgado. “The VA is helping me, but it only covered partial tuition. Having this scholarship really removes a lot of my stress and helps me focus on my studies and classes.”

Mariah Foster
The Tjossem Family Endowed Scholarship

Engineering Transfer Student, Mariah Foster, came to LWTech as a first-generation college student, seeking a fresh start.

After studying business for a couple of years, Foster began her search for careers where she could expand her business background, while also incorporating a deeper understanding and technical knowledge. During her job search, she landed on Industrial Engineering.

“I did a lot of research and once I discovered Industrial Engineering, I knew this was my chance to dive in and prioritize my energy and my time towards my education. At 27, I was like okay, this is the time,” said Foster.

Her research in Industrial Engineering would lead Foster to LWTech’s Engineering Transfer program. Aside from being only a few minutes from home, Foster was drawn to the program’s small class sizes, hands-on courses, and support from instructors and peers.

“The faculty truly want to see you succeed. I have been to many different community colleges, and LWTech is really the only college where I actually felt supported by the people I interact with,” said Foster.

This spring, Foster received The Tjossem Family Endowed Scholarship. “Receiving this scholarship, allowed me to focus on my studies instead of worrying about how I was going to pay for my tuition. It’s also really nice to know that the Tjossem family believed in me, and wanted to support me, my mission and my goals,” said Foster.

Ruth Girma
Elling and Barbara Halverson Endowed Nursing Scholarship for Outstanding Nursing Students
Dr. David Woodall Vision Scholarship

Nursing student, Ruth Girma, has always wanted to work in the healthcare industry. Originally from Seattle, Girma grew up in Ethiopia and moved back to Seattle after graduating from High School at the age of 16. After taking college courses for a year, Girma decided to pursue working full-time instead.

“I got a job at University of Washington Medical Center, worked there for a little over six years and I loved the job! I learned a lot of different things, and had a couple of different roles,” said Girma.

But in her last role, Girma slowly found herself feeling a lack of passion for the work she was doing and began to reach out to nurses she knew for advice. This ultimately led her to quit her job and pursue Nursing school full time.

“I was looking at LWTech’s Nursing pre-requisites when I realized it was just down the street from my favorite gym,” said Girma. “During my search, LWTech’s Nursing program was listed as one of the highest ranked programs in Washington state, so it only seemed fitting to pursue my degree here.”

Earlier this year, Girma was providing at-home patient care when COVID-19 hit the Kirkland community. Girma’s patients were listed as high-risk for the virus, so in order to reduce risk of infection, Girma’s hours were cut.

“I had a balance left on my tuition, and I honestly didn’t know how I was going to make this happen,” said Girma. “That’s when I received an email letting me know I received the Elling and Barbara Halverson Endowed Nursing Scholarship for Outstanding Nurses and the Dr. David Woodall Vision Scholarship. It was such a relief to stay in the program.”
Introduction
LWTech is the only public institute of technology in Washington state and is accredited at the associate and bachelor degree levels by The Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU). Student Achievement is supported through: Accreditation; Guided Pathways; Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion work; and, grant development.

Accreditation
LWTech will use the 2020-21 academic year to build a Mission Fulfillment Plan, formerly called the Strategic Plan. Aligned with the college’s accreditation cycle, this will be a stabilizing plan to guide LWTech through the COVID crisis and beyond.

In October 2019, LWTech hosted an evaluation team from the NWCCU for our Seven-Year Accreditation Site Visit. Alongside three recommendations, the college received five commendations for excellence, including:

1. Effectively transforming the institution into a mission-driven, high-functioning system, as manifested through strong leadership support from the Board of Trustees, along with the president and other administrators, and the “can do” attitude of faculty and staff.

2. Its commitment to close opportunity gaps among its students by developing and implementing a comprehensive equity, diversity, and inclusion plan.

3. The LWTech Library Learning Commons faculty and staff for their extensive program of information literacy and outreach and for consistently promoting and maintaining a welcoming and safe atmosphere for student learning and engagement.

4. Fostering engagement within the College and with community partners, exemplified by a common dedication to the institutional mission, collaborative approach to campus safety, and for strengthening advisory committee activities to support students and programs.
5. Providing faculty and staff with opportunities for professional growth and development to enhance their effectiveness in fulfilling their roles, duties, and responsibilities.

More information can be found online: LWTech.edu/accreditation

Guided Pathways
Guided Pathways is a fundamental shift in advising, curriculum, and support services to create equitable opportunities for students to earn degrees or certificates regardless of background or socioeconomic status. Highlights from 2019-20 include:

Program Maps: Maps in the Catalog guide students from college entry through completion or transfer. Students are directed to default course selections and set schedules designed to lead to on-time completion, though students can customize plans by working with an advisor. Many of the technical programs have moved to a cohort, block schedule. Career/transfer maps are also in place on program webpages.

New Technology Tools: Legend (Starfish by Hobsons) records the student’s Meta Major and Program of Study, and program enrollment is tracked. The college is implementing Hobsons Degree Planner to streamline scheduling and monitor student progress in addition to implementing Hobsons Predictive Analytics.

Supplemental Instruction: Supplemental Instruction (SI) is available for gatekeeper courses with high enrollment/low pass rates, defined at LWtech as courses where less than 75% of students pass. Students in classes with SI classes receive tutoring inside and outside of class. In developmental math classes, SI led to a narrowing of the achievement gap in pass rates for students of color (+4.5%) and elimination of the gap in withdrawal rates.

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion
The college’s ongoing commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) is best captured by the college’s recent Action Plan: LWTech’s Work To End Systemic Racism. Published in June 2020, the plan is available online: LWTech.edu/ActionPlan

This document describes short- and long-term steps that LWTech will take to support Black employees and students, as well as other employees and students of color. Steps include campus-wide Courageous Conversations; short-term leave offered to process the historic events of the 2019-20 academic year; examination of the college’s role with the Kirkland Police Department; new instructional requirements related to an EDI-focused class; and, finally, supports for formerly incarcerated students. The college hired an Executive Director of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in September 2020.

Grant Development
In 2019-20, LWTech continued to demonstrate excellence in securing new grant funds and expanding current programs.

- Since 2019, LWTech, in partnership with SEIU Healthcare 1199NW, SEIU Healthcare 1199NW Multi-Employer Training and Education Fund, Swedish Medical Center Edmonds, and Kaiser Permanente of Washington, received $500,000 in Hospital Employee Education and Training (HEET) funding from the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges. This funding will provide tuition for Nursing students, salaries for some staff, and expand the simulation nursing laboratory. This pathway will also create a more diverse regional nursing workforce.

- The Northwest Network for Application Development (AppConnectNW) (DUE 1700629) funded by the National Science Foundation brings together seven regional colleges with the Washington Technology Industry Association to ensure bachelor degree programs in computer science meet employer needs.

- LWTech hosts two federal Student Support Services TRIO projects funded at over $500,000 annually (SSS and SSS-Disability). These programs serve 300 students every year and provide services such as one-on-one tutoring, advising, career counseling, transfer planning and more to students with disabilities, low-income students, and first-generation college students (P042A201022 and P042A201169).

- Expansion of flipped learning in math courses with funding from College Spark Washington. Flipped learning is when “direct instruction moves from the group learning space to the individual learning space, and the resulting group space is transformed into a dynamic, interactive learning environment.” The grant will also align and streamline classes in Basic Education for Adults and developmental education.

- In partnership with the Washington Commission on Hispanic Affairs, Washington STEM, Everett Community College, and Columbia Basin College, LWTech received a $248,000 planning grant from Career Connect Washington to plan a comprehensive “career launch” program in Information Technology.
LWTech by the Numbers
Demographics for 2019-2020

LWTech Enrollment Data: 2019-2020

- 1,000 Students
- Enrollment (total headcount) 5,938
- Enrollment (full-time equivalent students) 3,161
- White Students 2,710
- Students of Color 2,141
- Student Race Not Reported 1,087
- Male 2,177*
- Female 3,761*
- Enrolled with a degree already earned (associate or higher) 1,475
- Workforce Training 3,314
- Transfer 886
- Other (enrichment, improve job skills, etc.) 736
- Basic Skills 1,002

- Median Student Age: 29
- Student: Faculty Ratio: 13:1
- Students Receiving Financial Aid: 25%
- Estimated Rate of Employment: 81%
- 2017-18 Graduates: 81%

* LWTech began collecting expanded gender identity information in 2013 to assist in promoting a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students; however, that information is not publicly shared at this time.

** Source: Data Linking Outcomes Assessment. Additional information available at sbctc.edu/colleges-staff/data-services/data-warehouse-documentation.aspx
LWTech Employee Information: 2019-2020***

= 100 Employees

White Employees 464
Employees of Color 107

Male 207
Female 364

Full-Time Teaching Faculty 103
Part-Time Teaching Faculty 261

Classified 103
Administrative 104

LWTech Financial Information: 2019-2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financials</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Operating Budget</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Grants for Financial Aid</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federal Non-Financial Aid Grants</td>
<td>$2,573,929</td>
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<tr>
<td>State Grants</td>
<td>$2,429,591</td>
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<td>Student Loans</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scholarships Awarded</td>
<td>$552,568</td>
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<td>Work Study (dollar amount)</td>
<td>$212,856</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

10 Highest Enrolled Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Name</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital Gaming and Interactive Media</td>
<td>236</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Sciences</td>
<td>229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing</td>
<td>226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computing and Software Development</td>
<td>218</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Childhood Education</td>
<td>214</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design</td>
<td>168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welding Technology</td>
<td>129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounting</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Assisting</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auto Repair Technician</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For the first time, the Foundation was able to award a certified refurbished laptop, computer bag, and mouse to every student who applied for a laptop scholarship, distributing a total of 54 laptops. This was in large part due to the leadership of Bill Shelby, Vice President of the Foundation Board and Chair of the Foundation Scholarship Committee.

The need for students to have technology has steadily increased since the Foundation's laptop scholarship program began in 2018. That first year, there were 62 applicants and the Foundation Scholarship Committee awarded one laptop. The following year, there were 96 applicants and two students were awarded laptops. When the college moved to remote learning, at the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis, the LWTech Foundation saw a fast-growing need, and opened up the application cycle.
While all programs require technology to succeed, programs such as Engineering, Design, and Information Technology in particular, require students to run high-level software to learn the materials and complete the class. Many low-income students don’t have a reliable computer at home so they rely on school computers and their local library to complete the computer components of school and maintain good grades. However, in March, with the onset of COVID-19, students lost their ability to access public computers prior to the beginning of spring quarter. Students were put into a very challenging position as they suddenly needed to own a personal laptop, but were without the financial resources to make that purchase. Shelby and the Scholarship Committee immediately made the decision to expand the laptop scholarship to meet the urgent need for technology and to keep students in school and on track.

“In 2019, we had to turn away 94 students who didn’t have a reliable personal computer. That’s when I realized we had a huge, unmet need that the Foundation could address. Students were trying to complete their homework on their phones, or had computers that crashed regularly. Once the pandemic hit, I knew that owning a laptop could make the difference between staying in school or dropping out,” said Shelby, “I wanted to make sure that we removed the technology barrier for as many students as possible.”

Because of the Scholarship committee’s passion and leadership, the Foundation committed to purchasing a laptop, bag, and mouse for every student who applied! That meant purchasing an additional 52 laptops in addition to the two that were already earmarked for students through the scholarship. The Foundation distributed the laptops to students by setting up a safe, no-contact, drive-through so students could stay in their cars. In the words of one of our students, “Thank you so much for awarding me with the laptop scholarship. Thanks to you, I will be less stressed out and this laptop will help me stay on top of everything I need to do. I am so extremely thankful and blessed to receive this scholarship by you, you don’t know how much I appreciate this.”

The Foundation is proud to be able to award something that is so vital to students, especially during this unprecedented time. Diane Haelsig, LWTech Board Member and scholarship committee member adds, “A laptop is something a student will own even after graduation. Not only does it increase their efficiency and success at school, it will travel with them as they transition into a career, helping them look for jobs, develop their resumes, and communicate with potential employers. This is a tangible representation of the student’s ability to succeed. By committing to the laptop scholarships, the school is saying that we believe in you and we support you.”

The Foundation plans to raise additional funds for the laptop scholarship program to ensure as many students as possible receive a laptop to help them reach their academic goals.
COVID-19 Special Report: First Impacted, First to Help
Community Supports Students During COVID-19 Crisis

For information on how you can donate to the COVID-19 Student Emergency Fund visit LWTech.edu/Foundation
Back in February 2020, LWTech was the first college in the country to be impacted by coronavirus (COVID-19), with students and faculty exposed to virus. LWTech has since been labeled “Campus Zero” by The Chronicle of Higher Education1. With no other college in the country with any known cases of the virus, and with no playbook on what to do (King County Public Health was figuring it out at the same time as the college), LWTech’s Foundation moved quickly to ensure that the 45 students who were in self-quarantine received financial assistance. These students, many of whom are parents or sole providers of their families, were unable to work their part or full-time jobs, and because of that, they needed assistance with groceries, rent, and basic living expenses, such as medication, utilities, and diapers.

Without hesitation, longtime donors, James Kinsella and Robert McNeal, stepped up to provide a challenge grant of $25,000 to set up a COVID-19 Special Student Emergency Fund to support students directly impacted by the virus. Their goal was to make sure students had their basic needs supported. Kinsella and McNeal said at the time, “Like LWTech, we choose to fight the fear of COVID-19 with action, and we urge others to do so as well. That’s why we launched the pledge challenge of $25,000 to encourage others to fight fear with action.”

In just a few short weeks, more than $70,000 was raised.

“The pandemic is incredibly challenging for everyone, particularly LWTech students, many of whom are parents and work part- or full-time jobs while attending school,” comments Clara Hollin, LWTech Foundation Board President. “The Foundation Board felt strongly that establishing the special COVID-19 Student Emergency Fund was key to providing the support necessary to alleviate student hardships, and ensure that students are able to access basic necessities during this time.”

LWTech was the first technical college to move classes fully online in the early days of the pandemic. As a hands-on, workforce college, taking classes online could have created significant barriers for students to continue their education.

The Associated Student Government (ASG) leaders provided $72,000 of student funding to purchase technology for students to continue their studies online. Additionally, through generous donations, the Foundation purchased laptops for 54 students.

Through donations and a robust technology deployment program, students were able to get the technology they needed to continue their studies.

Community members, students, and employees stepped up to donate as soon as the call went out. In addition to the technology donation, ASG leaders thoughtfully reallocated $26,000 to the COVID-19 Student Emergency Fund.

“Like LWTech, we choose to fight the fear of COVID-19 with action, and we urge others to do so as well...”
–Donors James Kinsella and Robert McNeal

Ellien Tater an Information Technology: Computing and Software Development student who was impacted by COVID-19 shares, “My mom has an auto-immune disorder which makes her very susceptible to illness. The threat COVID-19 poses to her was too high for her to work. We were afraid we wouldn’t be able to pay for our housing, utility bills and food due to the lack of work. We’re a family of three: myself, my mom and my younger brother. We have no one else we can fall back upon. Being able to apply for this emergency grant really just helped relieve all the stress that I felt and helped me focus on getting the quarter finished on a good note.”

One LWTech employee said about donating, “My job has no direct student involvement, but I did see the financial need that was arising. In discussing this at home, we quickly agreed that we wanted to help the Foundation in its raising of funds for the COVID-19 Student Emergency Fund. When you invest your money to help a mind learn and grow, that’s a wise investment all around.”

1 Chronicle.com/Article/Campus-Zero
Professors Don Marshall and Mike Clifton Endowed Scholarships

Professors Don Marshall and Mike Clifton collectively spent more than 62 years teaching at LWTech. Marshall started the Environmental Horticulture program in 1979, and Clifton began his tenure teaching Machining Technology at the college in 1996. Throughout their careers at the college, they positively impacted the lives of hundreds of students who have gone onto long and successful careers.

Over the years, both Marshall and Clifton saw students who struggled financially. They taught with heart, and when students were facing uncertainty, both Marshall and Clifton would always recommend that students connect with the Foundation, where they could learn about the variety of scholarships available.

Clifton and Marshall retired in 2018 and 2019 respectively. To honor them, the LWTech Foundation announced the creation of the Don Marshall Endowed Scholarship, and the Mike Clifton Endowed Scholarship funded by anonymous donors.

“I saw students who were struggling to pay their rent and bills. They were having to choose between that and buying tools, paying tuition or paying their rent,” said Clifton.

“I’ve seen firsthand how it makes a huge difference when students receive scholarships. It makes them successful and takes the pressure off.” Marshall adds, “Scholarships not only provide financial support for students, but they also psychologically help them. Emotionally it’s a huge deal for students to receive scholarships. It’s a positive affirmation that they can do it. People need that.”

Both scholarships will award $1,000 to a student, annually, in perpetuity for students in the Environmental Horticulture and Machining Technology programs.
Teddy is an accomplished artist, entrepreneur, business, and community leader with numerous strong ties to Lake Washington Institute of Technology. Among her many talents, Teddy is known to be an outstanding “connector” of people, organizations, and causes.

Teddy earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Fashion Design from Woodbury University in Glendale, California. She moved to Kirkland, in 1974 with her husband John and sons, Erik and Jason. Teddy’s first connection to LW Tech, then Lake Washington Technical College, was as a student in the sewing program in 1988. She continues to actively participate in this vibrant area of study which has grown to offer students an opportunity to earn a certificate of completion. She currently tests women’s clothing patterns for Vogue Pattern Designer, Marcy Tilton.

Teddy and her late husband John started several successful businesses in the Kirkland area. Possessing a strong commitment to giving back, Teddy has been deeply involved in many civic and community organizations. She has served as chair of the EvergreenHealth Foundation Board, chair of the Greater Kirkland Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and chair of LW Tech Foundation’s Bachelor of Science in Nursing Campaign Committee. Teddy also served as a board member of the Kirkland Arts Center, Kirkland Performance Center, Seattle Symphony Women’s Association, St. Thomas Day School, and the LW Tech Foundation. She was the founding executive director of the Kirkland Downtown on the Lake (Downtown Association) and was instrumental in the formation of the Kirkland Fourth of July Parade and Farmer’s Market. She also raised funds for the Kirkland Centennial.

Teddy funds an annual scholarship at LW Tech and has also connected her family to LW Tech. Her daughter-in-law, Kristen Overleese, is currently serving on the LW Tech Foundation. Her son, Erik, a teacher, has toured the campus with his fifth-grade students and her son, Jason, is active in the selection for Kirkland Rotary’s annual scholarship recipient at LW Tech.

Congratulations to Teddy on this distinguished honor!
The Bradley Family Foundation Funds Campus Community Support

Thanks to generous grants from The Bradley Family Foundation, LWTech now has trained facilitators for the nationally recognized Alternatives to Violence Project.

In 2019, the funding enabled the college to bring the Alternatives to Violence Project to campus for a nine-day “Train the Trainer” course, guiding over a dozen faculty and staff on how to teach our community to de-escalate potentially violent situations using empathy-based social skills, listening and communication, and conflict transformation. Additionally, the grant financed the purchase of mental health first aid books as a resource for faculty and staff in identifying, understanding, and responding to signs of mental illnesses and substance use disorders.

The grant also tripled the number of hours available for one-on-one tutoring, a highly effective method to promote academic success, for students with disabilities on campus. “We have a common goal,” shared Carl Bradley, President of The Bradley Family Foundation. “By helping students succeed, we help ensure their self-sufficiency later in life, as well as others who follow in their footsteps. We are delighted to work with LWTech to close equity gaps and cultivate an enriching environment for students and our greater community.”

In Fall 2020, LWTech utilized The Bradley Family Foundation grant to host “Factuality,” a training on structural inequality in America that uses facilitated dialogue and a board game to simulate real life experiences and help unpack the structural limitations and advantages that coincide with various racial/ethnical identities. “These transformative programs have enhanced the lives of our students and campus community,” said Dr. Amy Morrison, President, LWTech. “We greatly appreciate The Bradley Family Foundation’s generosity in making these innovative programs and student experiences possible at LWTech.”

...We are delighted to work with LWTech to close equity gaps and cultivate an enriching environment for students and our greater community.”

—Carl Bradley
The First Annual LWTech Retirees Luncheon was held on campus on September 19, 2019, and was a huge success! The event was attended by 25 cherished LWTech retirees, including retired LWTech President, Dr. Sharon McGavick, and 2018-2019 LWTech Foundation Board President, Diane Haelsig. Before the luncheon, retirees spent time visiting with current LWTech faculty and staff. At the luncheon, guests were welcomed by LWTech Foundation executive director, Elisabeth Sorensen, and provided with an update on the college by LWTech President, Dr. Amy Morrison. Due to COVID-19, the 2nd Annual LWTech Retirees’ Gathering was held online via Zoom on Thursday, September 24. The Foundation looks forward to returning to the hosted luncheon and coffee meet-and-greet format in 2021.
Each year, hundreds of students are able to enroll in a program at LWTech to get the education that will help them secure a job, learn the skills that employers need, or update their skills as technology advances. Your generosity provides the scholarships and emergency help they need to fulfill their dreams.

On behalf of the Foundation, and all who benefit, thank you!

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