

Congresswoman Gluesenkamp Perez visits Clark



Left to right: Dean Gluesenkamp, Congresswoman Marie Gluesenkamp Perez, Professor Mike Godson, and Dannie Nordsiden examine an electric car motor. Photo: Clark College/Susan Parrish

When Congresswoman Marie Gluesenkamp Perez and her husband, Dean Gluesenkamp, stepped into Clark's Automotive Technology lab, it was familiar territory. The couple owns Dean's Car Care in Portland and have spent their careers working in the business.



Don Gonser shows the congresswoman the Diesel Lab. *Photo: Clark College/Kevin Damore*

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The visit included a visit to the welding shop to see the aluminum boat that the students are making. *Photo: Clark College/Kevin Damore*

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After seeing gasoline-powered cars in the shop bays, the group gathered around a dismounted electric motor from a Toyota hybrid that students had been working on. Clark's programs have kept pace with new technology and market demands.

Next, the group toured the Welding Technology lab with professor Chad Laughlin and the Diesel Technology lab, where professor Don Gonser led the way to a red Peterbilt semitruck with the engine exposed. Gluesenkamp Perez stopped to peer into the engine before posing for a group photo in front of the enormous rig.



*Left to right: Interim Vice President of Instruction, Automotive Professor Mike Godson, Dean Gluesenkamp, Congresswoman Marie Gluesenkamp Perez, Diesel Professor Don Gonser, and Automotive Professor Dannie Nordsiden.
Photo: Clark College/Maureen Chan-Hefflin*

Background



Photo: Clark College/Maureen Chan-Hefflin

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A graduate of Reed College with a degree in economics, she is a businesswoman and a politician. Gluesenkamp Perez has served on the Washington State Democratic Party executive committee since 2020. She has been a member of the Underwood Soil and Water District Conservation board of supervisors since 2018. Her new role as the U.S. representative for Washington's 3rd congressional district began in January 2023.

If you are interested to learn more about the Clark's

Automotive program contact Hernán Garzón, Automotive Student Recruiter at automotive@clark.edu or 360-600-2098.