

Nursing professor receives tenure



Professor Dianne Lucia

Nursing professor Dianne Lucia was granted tenure during the Clark College Board of Trustees meeting on December 8.

Tenure is awarded by the college's Board of Trustees to faculty based on professional excellence and outstanding abilities in their disciplines. The granting of tenure is based on the recommendations of tenure review committees to the vice president of instruction, which are then forwarded to the president, who presents a final recommendation to the Board of Trustees. Recommendations are based on self-evaluations, tenure review committee evaluations, student evaluations, supervisory evaluations, and peer evaluations. The final decision to award or withhold tenure rests with the Board of Trustees.

Lucia will be honored at the 2022 tenure reception on May 25.

About Dianne Lucia

Dianne Lucia earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from Portland State University and her Master of Science in Nursing degree from Western Governors University. Additionally, she earned a Certification in Healthcare simulation from Boise State University in 2021. She has work experience in orthopedics, pediatric, and labor and delivery nursing at many local healthcare facilities including Providence Medical Center, Doernbecher Children's Hospital, Southwest Washington Medical Center, PeaceHealth Southwest Washington, and Legacy Salmon Creek.

A resident of Vancouver, Lucia first joined the faculty of Clark College as an adjunct professor in 2005. She began teaching full-time in 2015. At the college, she oversees the program's state-of-the-art simulation lab, a teaching tool that has had even greater importance during the COVID-19 pandemic when students had difficulty getting hands-on practice in clinical settings.

"I believe the most important role I have as a teacher is to promote a safe learning environment," said Lucia. "I believe that experiential active learning is the most effective teaching approach. Simulation remains one of my favorite teaching strategies because it improves critical thinking through reflective learning."

Sharing the bounty



Helping distribute food were, *left to right*, Director of Student Life Sarah Gruhler, Phi Theta Kappa member Jessica Smith, social work intern Brooke Niemer, PTK member Miya Hobart, ASCC Vice President Claudia Carrion, ASCC Student Relations & Promotions Casey Figone, ASCC President Xander Hawkins, APB member Melissa Lassiter, and Student Life Program Support Supervisor Sami Lelo. *Jenny Shadley/Clark College*

The Tuesday before Thanksgiving is often a sleepy time at Clark College, as students and faculty prepare to take time off for the long weekend. But this year, it was abuzz with activity, as students, staff, and faculty all worked to provide their community with holiday meals.

The event was a collaboration between the college's Phi Theta Kappa chapter, the culinary arts programs, Student Life, the Penguin Pantry, and the Clark College Alumni Association. Many Clark College employees donate funds for the project each year through Clark College Foundation.

Volunteers provided 333 Thanksgiving meals prepared by Cuisine Management students, baked goods from the Professional Baking program, bread donated by sponsors Meineke, as well as to the regular monthly food boxes provided to Penguin Pantry recipients. In total, 122 students and their households—481 people in all—were provided with 4,326 pounds of food.

Established four years ago, the Penguin Pantry provides Clark College students with food, other basic goods, and connections to resources. Learn more at www.clark.edu/cc/penguinpantry.

The day before, Cuisine Management professor Earl Frederick and his students worked to make Thanksgiving meals for families with a member in hospice. Read the *Columbian* article about the project.



Thanksgiving meals were prepared by Cuisine Management students including, *left to right*, Ruslan Ganzhin, Anthony McFarland, Quinten Teague, Ella Nelson, Ian Ryan, and Tom Aurellado. *Clark College/Jenny Shadley*

New VPs named



Vice President of Student Affairs Michele Cruse and Vice President of Instruction Paul Wickline

After a nationwide search, Clark College has announced the hiring of two new members of its Executive Cabinet. Dr. Michele Cruse was named Vice President of Student Affairs and Paul Wickline was named Vice President of Instruction. Dr. Cruse is starting in the position in November and Paul Wickline will begin on January 3, 2022.

“These are two crucial roles at the college, overseeing the two units with the most direct contact with our students—either in class settings or through student services,” said Clark College President Karin Edwards. “Michele and Paul are both highly qualified professionals who will be able to provide leadership and stability to the college.”

Both positions were filled after nationwide job searches and extensive interviews with hiring committees, college leadership, and open forums with the college community.

About Dr. Michele Cruse

Dr. Michele Cruse has been serving as Interim Vice President of Student Affairs at Clark College since October 2020. Prior to coming to Clark, she served as Vice President and Dean of Student Affairs and Associate Dean of Student Affairs and Experiential Education at the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford in Pennsylvania. A native Pittsburgher, Dr. Cruse earned her associate degree from the Community College of Allegheny County, her bachelor's degree in public administration from the University of Pittsburgh, her master's degree in public administration and nonprofit management from Portland State University, and her doctorate in community college leadership from the Oregon State University.

Dr. Cruse's work experience includes both faculty and staff positions at Portland Community College, including dean of student development. She has owned her own business and served as co-founder of an organization focused on workshops and education for community members, women, disenfranchised youth, and those in alternative education.

At Clark College, Dr. Cruse leads Student Affairs, a unit that includes a wide range of services and programs including enrollment services, athletics, career services, international programs, financial aid, disability support, the Veterans Resource Center, and the Counseling and Health Center, among others.

Dr. Cruse lives in Vancouver with her husband, Michael. They have three adult children.

"I am very excited and feel very honored to work alongside dedicated Clark College leaders as the Vice President of Student Affairs," said Dr. Cruse. "It's my ultimate goal to ensure that we provide students with a campus environment where every student feels valued, respected, and included while pursuing their academic goals."

About Paul Wickline

Paul Wickline brings with him many years of experience in both teaching and leading in a variety of educational settings. He began his educational journey at Edmonds Community College studying vocal music. From there, he went on to earn a Bachelor of Education degree from Western Washington University and his Master of Education degree from Central Washington University. He is currently working on his doctoral dissertation in the Higher Education Leadership program at Portland State University.

Wickline began his teaching career as a high school English and drama teacher in Walla Walla, Washington. He then began teaching theatre at Walla Walla Community College. In 2008, he moved to the College of the Canyons in Southern California, where he served in a series of roles that brought increased leadership: faculty member, department chair, faculty outcomes and assessment coordinator, Academic Senate President, dean of the School of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Assistant Vice President of Educational Pathways, and finally Associate Vice President of Instruction. He is a past faculty fellow of the Association of American Colleges and Universities Collaborative Project and a mentor in the Association of California Community Colleges Association mentorship program.

Wickline and his wife, Karol Matson, are relocating to the Vancouver area this winter.

“I am humbled and honored to serve alongside the exceptional faculty, staff, and administrators as the next Vice President of Instruction at Clark College,” Wickline said. “Clark College has an outstanding reputation for providing students with quality career and academic preparation to meet the evolving needs of community, business, and industry. I look forward to collaborating with Clark colleagues to best support our students.”

This article originally misidentified the institution where Dr. Cruse earned her doctorate. It was corrected on Nov. 22.

Educating for the Seventh Generation

For more than a decade, Clark College has honored the cultures and traditions of indigenous peoples with an annual celebration and powwow held in early November. This year, as in 2020, that celebration needed to be held virtually due to COVID-19. A video including interviews with community leaders and images from past celebrations has been posted on the college's web page devoted to the event. It is also posted below.

Winter and spring registration begins Nov. 9



Registration for both winter and spring terms at Clark College opens on Tuesday, November 9. Students can check their specific registration time and date via their ctcLink account.

More than 40 percent of the approximately 1,200 classes on offer for winter term will include an in-person component—either as a fully face-to-face class, or as part of a hybrid model in which some class activities take place in person while others are completed online. Approximately 8,000 students were enrolled in Clark College in the 2021 fall term, and about one-quarter of all fall classes had an in-person component. Since the beginning of the pandemic, the college has provided free loaner laptops and other support for its online learners.

This winter, the college will be offering additional cohorts of some of its most sought-after degree programs, including a winter cohort in Welding Technologies, and spring cohorts in Pharmacy Technician and Cybersecurity. Winter will also see expanded course offerings in the college's Management program, including MGMT 120, "Supervisor as a Trainer Coach."

Additionally, the college will transition to being a fully vaccinated campus, meaning that all students participating in in-person classes, activities or services must be fully vaccinated or have an accepted medical or religious exemption on file before the beginning of the term. As in fall term, masks will continue to be required inside all college facilities. Learn more about the college's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, including vaccination and exemption guidelines, at www.clark.edu/covid-19.

"Data shows that the equity gaps in vaccination are closing, and we know that vaccinations are the best way to protect our community from COVID-19," said Clark College President Karin Edwards. "That's why we are becoming a fully vaccinated campus in winter term. I'm excited to welcome more students safely back to campus in 2022."

Winter term classes begin January 3, 2022. Spring term classes begin April 4, 2022. All students must complete the enrollment process before registering for classes. Visit www.clark.edu/getstarted to learn more.

Video: Introducing women to careers in manufacturing and mechanical



Guests tour Clark College's Diesel Technologies lab during an open house held in September 2021 to encourage women to explore careers in the advanced manufacturing and mechanical trades. *Photo: Jenny Shadley/Clark College*

On September 9, Clark College hosted a free workshop for women interested in advanced manufacturing and the mechanical trades on the college's main campus. More than 30 women attended the event, which included hands-on activities and tours of the college's Automotive, Diesel, and Welding labs, as well as the chance to speak with professors.

The following video, narrated by Interim Dean of Workforce Professional Technical Education & STEM, captures some of the excitement from the event as well as the motivation behind it. Properly trained technicians are in high demand in the advanced manufacturing and mechanical industries, and these careers can be rewarding both financially and professionally. However, a recent study found that only 1 in 3 manufacturing professionals are women.

Two \$1,800 scholarships will be made available to students who attend this event and enroll in a Clark College Automotive, Diesel, or Welding program by fall 2022. One scholarship was

made available by Madden Industrial Craftsmen, the other through an anonymous donor.

See more photos from the event on the college's Flickr site.

Dr. Edwards named Aspen Presidential Fellow



President Karin Edwards

The Aspen Institute College Excellence Program today announced that Dr. Karin Edwards, president of Clark College, is one of 25 leaders selected for the 2021-22 class of the Aspen New Presidents Fellowship. This program supports community college presidents in the early years of their tenure as they aim to achieve higher and more equitable levels of student success. The Fellowship's philanthropic partner is JPMorgan Chase.

The 25 Aspen Fellows, who lead colleges that collectively serve more than 280,000 students, were selected through a highly competitive process. Starting later this year, the Fellows will engage over nine months in residential sessions

and virtual learning to develop strategies to meet their goals for student success and equity with data to assess challenges and progress.

“We continue to learn how the best community colleges improve outcomes for students and close persistent race- and income-based equity gaps,” said Josh Wyner, executive director of the College Excellence Program. “This year’s fellows have demonstrated their commitment to achieving excellent and equitable student outcomes, and we are eager to work with them as they join Aspen’s network of more than 100 fellows who serve as community college presidents.”

“I’m honored to join the 2021-2022 Aspen Institute New Presidents Fellowship, working with 24 other presidents nationwide to increase student success with a focus on equity and excellence here at Clark College and other campuses across the U.S.,” said Dr. Edwards. “This is a tremendous opportunity.”

As community colleges grapple with the impact of COVID and enrollment declines, turnover among presidents remains high. Aspen is committed to helping prepare the next generation of exceptionally capable and highly diverse leaders through its fellowship programs for new and rising presidents. This new class of Aspen Presidential Fellows is 48 percent female, and 64 percent are people of color. Located in 18 states, their institutions too are diverse, from a tribal college with fewer than 500 students to an urban college that educates more than 35,000 each year.

“Community colleges play a critical role in helping to prepare young adults and incumbent workers for in-demand jobs of the future,” said Monique Baptiste, Vice President and Head of Jobs & Skills for Global Philanthropy at JPMorgan Chase. “Ensuring that the leaders of these institutions are equipped with the support and training they need to develop equitable student success is an integral part of building capacity over

the long-run. JPMorgan Chase is proud to partner with the Aspen Institute to build the next generation of exceptional college leaders as they work to advance the prosperity of the diverse communities and students they serve.”

JPMorgan Chase funds the Aspen Presidential Fellowship as part of New Skills at Work, a five-year, \$350 million investment to prepare for the future of work and meet the growing demand for skilled workers, including support for community colleges and other pathways to great careers and economic mobility.

The 2021-22 Aspen New Presidents Fellows

- **Rebecca Ashford**, Chattanooga State Community College (TN)
- **Seher Awan**, Los Angeles Southwest College (CA)
- **Vincent Bowhay**, Independence Community College (KS)
- **J.B. Buxton**, Durham Technical Community College (NC)
- **Karin Edwards**, Clark College (WA)
- **Angélica Garcia**, Berkeley City College (CA)
- **Veronica Garcia**, Northeast Lakeview College (TX)
- **Tracy Hartzler**, Central New Mexico Community College (NM)
- **Greg Hodges**, Patrick Henry Community College (VA)
- **Stephanie Kashima**, West Valley College (CA)
- **Georgia Lorenz**, Seminole State College of Florida (FL)
- **Kimberlee Messina**, Spokane Falls Community College (WA)
- **Rachel Pokrandt**, Umpqua Community College (OR)
- **Christy Ponce**, Temple College (TX)
- **Omid Pourzanjani**, San Joaquin Delta College (CA)
- **Monte Randall**, College of the Muscogee Nation (OK)
- **Anton Reece**, West Kentucky Community and Technical College (KY)
- **Ángel Reyna**, Madera Community College (CA)
- **Claudia Schrader**, CUNY Kingsborough Community College (NY)
- **Ricky Shabazz**, San Diego City College (CA)
- **Ron Slinger**, Miles Community College (MT)

- **Willie E. Smith**, Baton Rouge Community College (LA)
- **Russell Swagger**, Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe College (WI)
- **Justina Wilhelm**, Iñlisagvik College (AK)
- **Jermaine Williams**, Nassau Community College (NY)

Founded in 1933, **Clark College** provides residents of Southwest Washington with affordable, high-quality academic and technical education. It is a public community college offering more than 100 degree and certificate programs, including bachelor's and associate degrees; professional certificates; high school diplomas and GED preparation; and non-credit community and continuing education. Clark serves a wide range of students including high school students, displaced workers, veterans, parents, non-native English speakers, and mature learners. Approximately three-quarters of its students are in the first generation of their families to attend college. Learn more at www.clark.edu.

The Aspen Institute College Excellence Program aims to advance higher education practices and leadership strategies that significantly improve student outcomes. Through the Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence, the Aspen Presidential Fellowship for Community College Excellence, and other initiatives, the College Excellence Program works to improve colleges' understanding and capacity to teach and graduate students, especially the growing population of low-income students and students of color on American campuses. For more information, visit highered.aspeninstitute.org and follow us on Twitter at @AspenHigherEd.

The Aspen Institute is a global nonprofit organization committed to realizing a free, just, and equitable society. Founded in 1949, the Institute drives change through dialogue, leadership, and action to help solve the most important challenges facing the United States and the world. Headquartered in Washington, DC, the Institute has a campus in Aspen, Colorado, and an international network of partners.

About JPMorgan Chase

JPMorgan Chase & Co. (NYSE: JPM) is a leading global financial services firm with assets of \$3.7 trillion and operations worldwide. The Firm is a leader in investment banking, financial services for consumers and small businesses, commercial banking, financial transaction processing, and asset management. A component of the Dow Jones Industrial Average, JPMorgan Chase & Co. serves millions of customers in the United States and many of the world's most prominent corporate, institutional and government clients under its J.P. Morgan and Chase brands. Information about JPMorgan Chase & Co. is available at www.jpmorganchase.com.

**Free workshop for women
interested in the trades**



A student in Clark College's Diesel Technology lab. Photo: Clark College/Jenny Shadley

Clark College is hosting a free workshop for women interested in advanced manufacturing and the mechanical trades on Thursday, September 9 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Clark College's main campus.

This roll-up-your-sleeves event is designed specifically for women to learn about the exciting career opportunities that are available in the mechanical and advanced-manufacturing fields. Guests will be able to tour the college's Automotive, Diesel, and Welding labs, participate in hands-on activities, and speak with professors.

Closed-toe shoes and long jeans are required; long-sleeved shirts are recommended. Safety goggles and masks are required and will be provided.

Properly trained technicians are in high demand in the advanced manufacturing and mechanical industries, and these careers can be rewarding both financially and professionally. However, a recent study found that only 1 in 3

manufacturing professionals are women.

“We know that, even in this day and age, women can be discouraged from pursuing careers in fields like automotive technology and welding,” said Armetta Burney, Clark College Interim Dean of Workforce Professional Technical Education and STEM. “And yet for years we’ve seen our female students succeed in these programs and enter the workforce. The college is holding this event in hopes of showing women the range of career opportunities available to them.”

Two \$1,800 scholarships will be made available to students who attend this event and enroll in a Clark College Automotive, Diesel, or Welding program by fall 2022. One scholarship was made available by Madden Industrial Craftsmen, the other through an anonymous donor.

Women interested in attending the event can learn more at <https://tinyurl.com/yfb6e6qk> or contact Hernan Garzon at hgarzon@clark.edu. The event is free and open to the public, though prior registration is encouraged. Guests will meet in the Automotive Technology lab on Clark College’s main campus (near the Orange 1 parking lot), 1933 Ft. Vancouver Way. Maps and directions are available at www.clark.edu/maps. If you need accommodation due to a disability in order to fully participate in this event, you should contact Clark College’s Disability Support Services Office at 360-992-2314 or 360-992-0901 VP, as soon as possible.

Clark College expressly prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, perceived or actual physical or mental disability, pregnancy, genetic information, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, creed, religion, honorably discharged veteran or military status, citizenship, immigration status, or use of a trained guide dog or service animal in its programs and activities. Learn more at www.clark.edu/nds.

Most college offices offline Aug. 17-18



Most staff at Clark College will be largely unavailable to the public while they participate in a collegewide staff training on Tuesday, August 17 and Wednesday, August 18.

Classes will continue as normally scheduled. Additionally, the following services will be available:

- Child & Family Studies (child care)
- Computer lab (by appointment only)

- Library Services (response times to some emails may be slower than normal)
- Security & Safety
- Tutoring Services

However, most other offices and services—including Enrollment Services, the Bookstore, and the Cashier's Office—will be closed these two days.

This training will help staff to improve their skills and systems so that they can better serve students and the community in the future.

Find more information about Teaching and Learning days on the Clark College website.

Clark College announces plans for fall



Students, classes, and services will return to Clark College's main campus and other locations in fall 2021 as part of a gradual return to on-site operations. *Photo: Clark College/Amy Tam*

Clark College announced today its plans for fall term and the first phase of its return to on-site operations.

Earlier today, President Karin Edwards announced the following:

- **The college will strongly encourage students and employees to get vaccinated against Covid-19, but will not require vaccinations.**
- **For the time being, everyone on campus must wear an appropriate face covering and observe social distancing requirements,** which are now 3 feet in most circumstances. This policy (and the exact definition of safe social distancing) may change as fall term progresses, based on evolving guidance from the state.
- **Additionally, the college will continue with its plan for a gradually phased-in restoration of on-site activities and operations,** with

some employees, services, and events returning during fall term, and more employees, services, and events returning in the 2022 winter term.

In spring term, the college announced that roughly one-third of its fall classes would have an on-campus component.

The college's decisions follow guidance from Gov. Jay Inslee's proclamation covering higher education, which was issued on June 30 and revised on July 12. They also incorporate feedback from the college's staff and faculty unions, student government, and interdepartmental planning groups focused on the college's recovery and return to on-site operations.

"Our students and our employees need to know the college's way forward in order to plan for the future," said Dr. Edwards. "At the same time, we need to remain ready to adapt to the ever-evolving realities of this pandemic and its effects. We will continue to carefully monitor the situation and provide information about fall term as we further develop our plans—always with a focus on equity, access, and the safety of our whole community."

Additional information about the college's decisions for fall term can be found at www.clark.edu/covid-19.