

# REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

2013



## Mission

GRCC Foundation provides resources to assist Green River Community College in achieving educational excellence.



# CORE THEMES



**Mission**  
 Ensure student success through comprehensive educational programs and support services responsive to our diverse communities.

**Vision**  
 To be ranked among the very best in student completion and success and be an invaluable community partner and asset with robust and diverse revenue streams.

**College Transfer Education**  
 Provide programs and services that prepare learners for transition to and success in further degree programs

**College Readiness Education**  
 Provide pre-college programs and services that prepare for successful transition to college

**Student Success**

EQUITY

**Global Awareness**

**CORE VALUES**

INNOVATION

HIGH QUALITY

**Stewardship**

**Campus Environment**

**Community Engagement**

Student Access

**Career and Technical Education**  
 Provide programs and services that prepare learners for professional and technical career readiness, transitions and advancement

**Continuing and Community Education**  
 Provide programs and services that reflect a commitment to the professional, social and personal enrichment needs of the community

## 2013 GREEN RIVER PROFILE

- Total Annual Enrollment of 19,266 full-time and part-time students
- 1,182 Running Start students from area high schools
- 1,958 International students
- 928 employees, including 149 full-time and 421 adjunct faculty
- Students enrolling in fall 2013
- Average Age
  - All Students: 29
  - Full-time: 25
- Students of color: 36.3%
- 42% of students attend full-time
- 47% of students are female
- Average class size: 22
- First generation: 37%

# JOINT LETTER FROM DR. ELY AND SUE BENEDICT

College President

Foundation President



Green River Community College enjoys great success due to the hard work of the staff and faculty, the persistence and achievements of Green River students, and the support and involvement of the community. This Report to the Community is a joint publication produced for you by Green River and the Green River Community College Foundation. We hope you enjoy these highlights and feel a sense of pride and a connection to the accomplishments of your local community college.

During this past year, tremendous time was spent focusing on the college's accreditation process, environmental scan and strategic planning processes, and providing a world class education to students. This involved extensive internal study, outward reflection, and college and community participation. In 2013, Green River was the only community college to be:

- Selected by the Department of Homeland Security to participate in a national Campus Resilience Pilot Program
- Nominated and selected to win this year's Senator Paul Simon Award for Comprehensive Internationalization (NAFSA)
- Honored to host U.S. Congressman Reichert's Congressional Art Competition on campus, which highlighted artwork created by high school student artists from all over the region

During the year, Green River also celebrated commencement with more than 515 Green River graduates and their families. In addition, the first annual Gator Fest took place in September as Green River welcomed more than 2,000 individuals, including young families, alumni, potential students, and long-time residents, to campus for fun, food, and entertainment. The event provided an opportunity to showcase the newly-renovated Cedar Hall, which houses math, workforce education, and technology programs. Throughout the year, the Green River Gators were on the prowl – to include student athletes in 12 varsity sports. At the same time, a new college mascot was unveiled to match the fierce competitiveness, determination, and confidence of the Green River Gators.

In support of the College this past year, the Green River Community College Foundation was extremely busy, growing the scholarship program, creating a resource for returning veterans through the VET Fund, and continuing to provide one time emergency funding for students through the SAFE fund. At the Foundation's biennial Board retreat, board members worked to align the Foundation goals with the college's Strategic Plan. These goals focus on the following core objectives:

- Support broad ACCESS to a college education
- Support STUDENT SUCCESS in the persistence and completion of their academic goals
- Increase the CAPACITY of the college to achieve its mission
- Allow the college to meet its challenges in a FLEXIBLE manner

Throughout this report you will see our goals highlighted. In collaboration with the College, the Foundation continues to connect people, resources and opportunities. On behalf of the Green River Board of Trustees, administration, faculty, staff and students and the Green River Foundation Board members, thank you for your continued support and commitment to Green River Community College.

*Eileen C. Ely*  
College President

*Sue Benedict*  
Foundation President

We thank these leaders who served during 2012-2013

## Green River Board of Trustees

Tom Campbell, Auburn  
Linda Cowan, Auburn  
Pete Lewis, Auburn  
Mark Albertson, Kent  
Claudia Kauffman, Kent

## GRCC Foundation Board of Directors

Bill Anderson, Auburn, Boeing/Retired  
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*"Overheard at the Scholarship Banquet..."*

*Our donors don't get to see what their contribution does to the inside of a person. Knowing that someone believes in you and is willing to give so much - it changes us. I just want to say thank you to Green River, to the teachers here. I've never seen a group of people so willing to help a group of students succeed. I would just like to say thank you! -Stacie Mashnitskaya, Boeing Scholarship*

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



## Green River Community College



Gator Fest transformed the campus to a fairground. Green River welcomed more than 2,000 people to its main campus for the first Gator Fest, held September 21. The celebration was designed for the families of Auburn, Kent and surrounding towns and cities to help build community spirit and lasting relationships.

Gator Fest featured more than 70 food, arts and crafts and commercial vendors. Guests also enjoyed a live reptile show and exhibit,

inflatable playground and pony rides, "Dog Fest," a classic car show and two entertainment stages. The day also included a pancake breakfast and the dedication of the new Cedar Hall and the Foundation's Gator Gait 5K Run. Gator Fest had something for everyone!

Preparations for Gator Fest 2014, planned for September 13, are underway. Watch for more information as details develop.

# STUDENT SUCCESS

## VET Fund

Veterans arriving at Green River Community College face everyday challenges, but compound that with readjusting to civilian life and they can face great barriers to starting their education. Most veterans have access to educational benefits but there are often gaps in this funding. Sometimes vets are unfamiliar with the process, and other times it's simply waiting for paperwork to get through the system.

What started as a \$500 gift from the White River VFW Post 1741 has grown substantially thanks to community response. The fund took off when Jim and Suzanne Berrios hosted a fundraising breakfast at the Golden Steer and then Kent Rotary Club designated the Vet Fund as its funded item during its spring auction. Thanks to local efforts and contributions from alumni near and far, the VET Fund has become a significant resource for student veterans. The Green River community has rallied around an effort to support the women and men who have served our country.

The VET fund has helped student veterans in a variety of ways its first year: helping students pay rent, purchase welding tools and protective gear, and acquire their bus passes and gas cards. These are everyday challenges we all face, but oftentimes when a vet knows their VA benefits are coming through, the VET Fund helps sustain them until they are back on course.



### "Overheard at the Scholarship Banquet..."

*I was working a dead-end job at a hospital, cleaning and mopping floors when I decided: I didn't want to be doing that. I wanted to get going. It occurred to me I could go to a community college, get an associates degree in two years and get a job - a career. -Julia Olszewski, General Scholarship*

# INNOVATION

## Preparing students for jobs of the future

Information Technology jobs in Washington state will grow by 22 percent in the next several years, to over 100,000 jobs. At the same time, our state ranks no. 42 in awarding four-year college degrees. Two-thirds of IT employers prefer hiring employees with bachelor's degrees. This is why Green River is collaborating with the Auburn and Kent school districts and with the Puget Sound Skills Center to build a "2+2+2" degree pathway for high school students.

Students will use a nationally-recognized approach to earn college credit while they are still in high school. They then will then be able to transfer to Green River to earn two-year IT degrees followed by four-year degrees in either Network Administration and Cyber Security or in Secure Applications Development.



# HIGH QUALITY

## Institution-wide Strategic Plan paves way for reaccreditation

After more than a year of planning and gathering input from nearly 50 members of the college community, Green River Community College developed and finalized a comprehensive Strategic Plan to guide the institution through 2020.

The plan was completed in April 2013 and provides the direction for development of the college to include student success initiatives such as Achieving the Dream. Green River's commitment to the Strategic Plan will help create a culture of sustainable change which emphasizes accountability and ultimately ensures the success of the students.

The Strategic Plan also helped the college through its bid for reaccreditation, which was finalized in July 2013 by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, reaffirming Green River's high educational standards to meet the commission's qualifications for student success.

## Scholarship recipient Donald Fleming receives Transforming Lives award

This past year, the Trustees Association of Community and Technical Colleges recognized 2007 graduate Donald Fleming as an example of student success with their Transforming Lives Award.

Donald was a first-generation, low-income student. He started at Green River three times but had to leave twice due to lack of funding. After leaving the second time, Donald joined the Navy. He served for just a short time before he was diagnosed with bipolar disorder and was medically discharged.

He returned to Green River for the third time, received a scholarship, and became involved in college activities and TRiO, a student services group. Donald studied pre-engineering, graduated with an associate degree in science, and transferred to the University of Washington. Donald now works as an Industrial Engineer for The Boeing Company.



# HIGH QUALITY

## Green River Community College bee colony brought to you by Faculty Excellence Awards

When science instructor Danny Najera had an idea to bring a bee colony to campus, fellow faculty member Roland Vieira worked with him to plan the project and apply for funding through the Foundation's Faculty Excellence program.

**Aside from producing delicious local honey, the beehives serve a triad of purposes at Green River:**

**Education-** Maintaining beehives gives students in the classroom a firsthand look at animals in their natural environment

**Outreach-** Already, Najera has represented Green River at the Cougar Mountain Zoo and the Seattle Design Center. He plans on bringing his Green River bee program to many more outreach programs this coming summer and school year.

**Scientific research-** Najera will be compiling research on colony health, which will help local beekeepers. He will also examine cognition and bee communication in an effort to find out more about bee decision making.

Faculty Excellence Awards provide faculty the opportunity to engage in projects that promote teaching and learning, enhance the educational environment, demonstrate collaboration among faculty and have meaningful student impact. The Washington State Legislature initiated the awards, which are managed by the Green River Community College Foundation.



# FACULTY AND STAFF

## Staff and Faculty Recognition

School Employee Credit Union of Washington (SECUWA) joined Green River Community College Foundation to shine the spotlight on outstanding employees.

Zach Lambert, a longtime employee in facilities support, was recognized with the first Outstanding Staff Award sponsored by SECUWA. Zach's responsibilities include managing the move-in process for new

and renovated buildings such as Salish and Cedar Halls, as well as working with individuals and teams on their office designs and setups.

Edward Bloch of the Green River grounds crew was also recognized as an Outstanding Staff Award Recipient for his dedication to creating beautiful new lawn and garden areas throughout campus.



While the Outstanding Staff Awards were presented at Green River's Opening Day in September, Distinguished Faculty Awards were presented at graduation in June to English and reading instructor Harry Rosemond, ceramics instructor Paul Metivier, and engineering instructor Janet Ash.

The Foundation is proud to work with the employee recognition and faculty awards committee in recognizing excellence at Green River.

### *"Overheard at the Scholarship Banquet..."*

*Just a couple years ago, I asked my son Mitchell what he wanted to be when he grew up. He said, "a dinosaur." Now, he wants to be a computer scientist. This may be a result of my fiancé Jason teaching him engineering concepts such as 2D and 3D. He has Mitchell draw a square inside a cube on our 12-foot whiteboard.*

*The road leading me to this point in my life has been a long one which I'm so happy I took. And I'm looking forward to the future and many more years to come. Thank you for allowing us to pursue our dreams." -Lindsey Garland, Sprenger Family Scholarship and Jason Busnardo, Frank and Jeanne Rasmussen Scholarship*



*“Overheard at the Scholarship Banquet...”*

*The support you’re giving us students enables us to move on with our lives, to change the lives of others, and to reach out to people far and near. It means a lot to us. –Jibril Leigh, ‘08 Fred and Rita Poe Scholarship*

# CAMPUS ENVIRONMENT

## Paving the way for campus resilience plans nationwide

In April, Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano announced that Green River was a participant in the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Campus Resilience Pilot Program. Green River is one of seven colleges and universities selected nationwide and the only community college in the group.

Through the program, Green River will help pilot an emergency preparedness and resilience program for higher education institutions across the U.S. The program takes a “whole community” approach to planning and resilience efforts, which will help the college and surrounding community recover from emergencies.

Students, employees and community members helped develop plans and provided feedback to the DHS team that, once implemented, will improve the resilience of all U.S. colleges and universities.

## With Cedar Hall open, students eagerly anticipate the new Student Life Center

This fall, Green River celebrated the addition of Cedar Hall to its campus and readied for the building of the new Student Life Center.

Cedar Hall, formerly called the Science, Math and Technology (SMT) building, provides increased student access; space and functionality were increased to meet demand. The ADA-compliant building is home to Natural Resources,

Mathematics, the Math Learning Center, Early Childhood Education and Workforce Education.

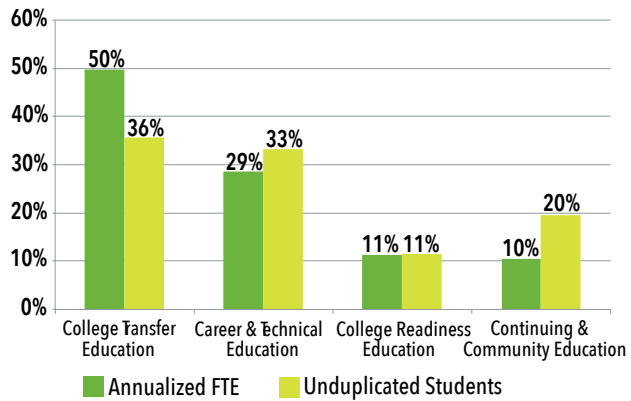
The Student Life Center, scheduled to start construction in early 2014, will be home to a new bookstore, cafeteria, student clubs, fitness center and multicultural center. These programs have outgrown their current home in the 42-year-old Lindbloom Student Center. The new center is scheduled to open its doors fall quarter 2015.



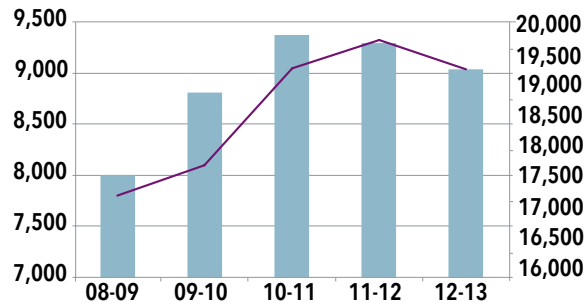
# EQUITY

## 2012 - 2013 Student Enrollments

### By Mission Area



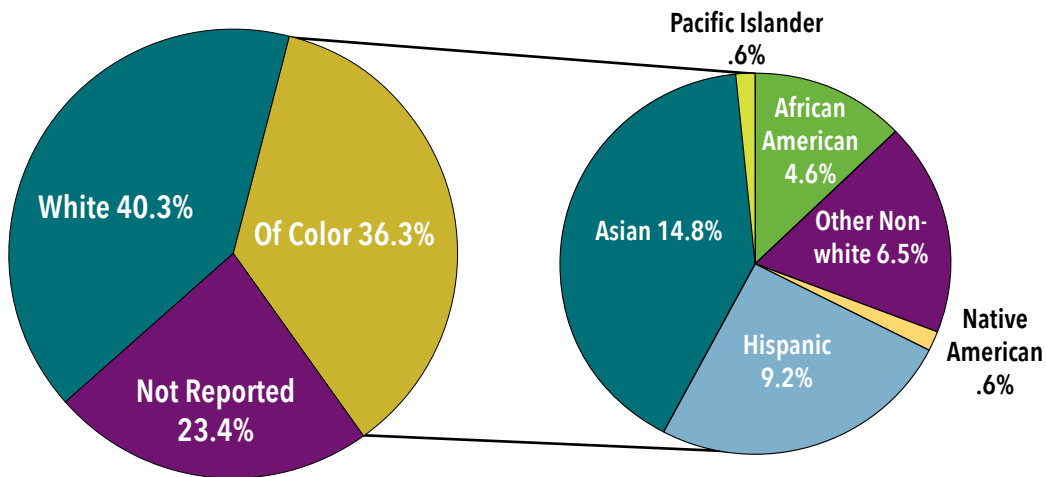
### Five Years



Green River has experience a 13% growth in annualized FTE from 7,996 in 2008-09 to 9,035 in 2012-13. The unduplicated students also increased, though at a slightly lower rate, by 11.5% from 17,275 to 19,266 students across the same time period.



### Race of Students



### "Overheard at the Scholarship Banquet..."

I received about \$4,000 in scholarships from the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe. \$4,000 in scholarship money equals approximately 439 hours of work in a minimum wage job. Instead of working, I was able to study during those 439 hours. Those extra hours of study helped me maintain a 3.87 GPA.

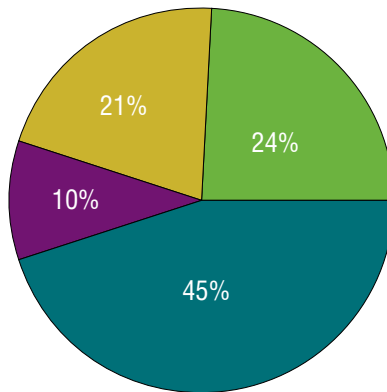
In the past two months, I have submitted six job applications and have received five interviews. My experience hasn't changed, my education has. -Steven Hart is a two-time recipient of the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe Scholarship.

## Green River Community College Financial Summary

### Revenues

Fiscal year ending June 30, 2013:

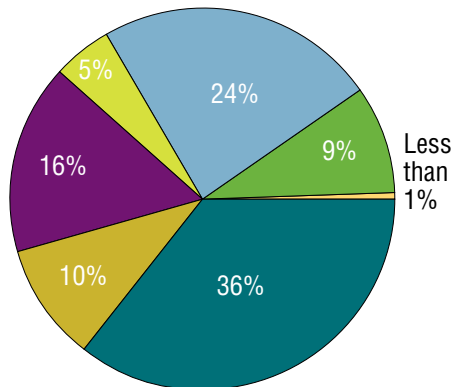
State Support-Operating	\$22,189,888
Tuition & Fees	\$19,718,439
Auxiliary Support Services	\$9,586,681
Grants (Federal, State, Local)	\$42,121,559
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$93,616,567</b>



### Expenditures

Fiscal year ending June 30, 2013:

Instruction	\$33,960,392
Student Services	\$9,011,304
Institutional Support	\$14,823,977
Facilities/Plant Operations	\$4,311,824
Auxiliary Support Services	\$8,566,215
Financial Aid	\$22,789,989
Reserve	\$152,866
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$93,616,567</b>



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## GRCC Foundation Financial Summary

Fiscal year ending June 30, 2013

The June 30, 2013 fund balance is represented by:

Cash and cash equivalents	\$609,911
Investments	\$17,557,110
Accounts Receivable	\$178,703
Other Receivables	\$57,824
Annuity Contracts	\$231,164
Other Assets	\$23,475
Land	\$367,808
Debt Issuance Costs	\$1,284,911
Buildings & Equipment	\$9,442,819
<b>Total Assets as of June 30, 2013</b>	<b>\$29,753,725</b>

Accounts Payable and Other	\$372,180
LLC Unearned Revenue and Deposits	\$275,398
Interest Note and Bond Payable	\$17,984,032
<b>Total Liabilities as of June 30, 2013</b>	<b>\$18,631,610</b>

**Net Assets as of June 30, 2013** **\$11,122,115**

To receive updates on the Foundation and key events at Green River:

- Find us online at [grccfoundation.org](http://grccfoundation.org).
- Email [reflections@greenriver.edu](mailto:reflections@greenriver.edu) to subscribe to Reflections, the Foundation's free newsletter.
- Join us on Facebook (at [Facebook.com/GRCCFoundation](https://www.facebook.com/GRCCFoundation)).
- Call the Foundation office at (253) 288-3330.
- Visit us at Green River's main campus, 12401 SE 320th St., Auburn, WA 98092, in the Administration building.