Report to the Community

2010

Highline Community College

Student Centered  CAREER FOCUSED
Welcome to the seventh edition of Highline’s Report to the Community. At a time of such transition in our nation’s economy, our college has been busier than ever addressing the economic development, education and training challenges for our region.

During the last few years, the college has experienced increased demand for services that support economic development in our community. We have responded with new programs and partnerships while continuing the long-term collaborations that have proved valuable over the years for our region’s success.

In this report, we highlight some of our efforts that support our community during these challenging times. You will read about just a few of our collaborative efforts with government agencies, employers and community-based organizations as well as local businesses and aspiring entrepreneurs. You can read about our new StartZone program, which has helped community members such as Margie Nelson and Salam Saoudi start new businesses.

Whether our initiatives are focused on responsiveness to the community, business or students, we expect to enhance opportunities and nurture success in ways that make a difference in the lives of our students and in the vitality of our communities.

One common thread in all that we do here at Highline is our student-centered approach. We take pride in being the state’s most diverse institution of higher education. Diversity is a core institutional value reflected in our daily activities and in the learning we cultivate.

Earlier this year I met with our international students who participate in the U.S. Department of State-sponsored Community College Initiative (CCI) program at Highline. During our talk, Adriane Fonseca, of Brazil, asked me a probing question, and later, Luzahn Delport, of South Africa, had a very positive comment about my response.

The question was about my expectations for their program and — really for each of them. Did I have anything specific in mind from them beyond their taking advantage of the educational opportunity at Highline?

My answer to Adriane was that we have a learning environment at Highline that embraces people from many different cultures and societies around the world, along with those representing the broad diversity of American society found in our immediate community where more than 130 languages are spoken. I wanted the CCI students to engage their fellow students in ways that promoted understanding across cultures and nations. I wanted them to take full advantage of leadership opportunities at the college, and after, to go home and make a difference in a way that brings people together and promotes greater understanding.

I have that same expectation of each student here at Highline. They have the benefit of an education in an unusually dynamic and inclusive environment. They will learn many things and acquire or refine many skills. My hope is that they use them in making our world a better place.

Their education and their service should improve the quality of life for themselves and their community. For me, it is really about striving for world peace one student at a time.

Dr. Jack Bermingham
Highline President
Highline alums among us:  
*Making their mark*

**Meheret Endeshaw: Improving global health**

Meheret Endeshaw discovered her passion for helping others at Highline. Now she’s helping improve health care around the globe.

As a Highline Running Start student, Meheret took a course that affected her personally and academically. In Honors 100, students receive personal academic counseling and create a portfolio to compete for entrance and scholarships at four-year schools.

“Honors 100 is very different from any other class I have taken in my college career because it forces you to look within yourself and recognize your unique place in the world,” said Meheret, who grew up in Ethiopia. “Once you find that place to embrace it and use it to your advantage instead of hiding it.”

After graduating from Highline, she attended Whitman College in Walla Walla, Wash., and won a prestigious national award — a $10,000 Project for Peace Grant.

She went back to her homeland in summer 2008 and launched her project that focused on improving the lives of HIV/AIDS orphans by providing educational books, a soccer and volleyball league and a safe place for reading and recreational activities.

She started work on her master’s degree in Public Health at the University of Washington in fall 2010.

**Dr. Linda Petter: Empowering others to better health**

Dr. Linda Petter, a family practitioner in Tacoma and author of “Common Medical Sense,” was named the college’s 2009 Distinguished Alumni Award winner for her outstanding work in the health care field.

“If it wasn’t for Highline, I don’t believe that I would be where I’m at today,” said Petter, a 1983 Highline graduate. “My career was defined at Highline.”

She came to Highline in 1980 wanting to be a nurse, but changed her career path after receiving encouragement from various people, including one Highline professor. “I told him I wanted to be a doctor, and he told me I could be anything I wanted to be,” Petter said.

Petter has spent her career striving to improve the quality of health care through patient education. She uses her website, books and public-speaking appearances to consistently promote her message.
Excellence: Creating collaboration

Strategic Initiative #1: Achieve excellence in teaching and learning.

Wassan Singh first came to Highline to study polysomnography technology and earned his associate’s degree in 2008. He began working as a polysomnography technologist at Auburn Regional Hospital and completed his associate’s degree in pre-nursing at Highline in June 2010.

“Highline has turned my life around,” Auburn’s Singh said. “I was not only educated by the best group of faculty members I ever came across but also in every class experience, instructors took the time to teach me how to think outside the box.”

Excellence in instruction — among other strengths — has earned accreditation for the Polysomnographic Technology certificate and Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree programs. The programs are now accredited by the Committee on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs.

Program Coordinator Nicki Bly noted that the three-year accreditation process was accomplished due to the tremendous support given by the polysomnography community of labs and vendors; college administrations from Edmonds, Highline, Olympic and Tacoma community colleges; faculty; and most important, past and present students.

Collaboration of this type is not new at Highline. In fact, collaboration is at the heart of its core values.

Such collaboration has been especially important as the local community continues to face significant unemployment. Highline has devoted considerable energy to the development of flexible, accessible training programs to help people get back to work — or to prepare themselves for higher-paying jobs. Typically, these programs have involved important
collaborations with private funders, government agencies, employers and community-based organizations.

Collaborative programs are one way Highline furthers its strategic initiative to achieve excellence in teaching and learning.

Singh, too, will be furthering his excellence in learning after graduating as a Highline Honors Scholar in June 2010. He started attending America’s No. 1 nursing school at the University of Washington in fall 2010.

$250,000 to expand job training

Highline’s Center of Excellence for International Trade, Transportation and Logistics (ITTL) received $250,000 to provide additional job training opportunities for positions in the international trade sector. U.S. Senator Patty Murray and U.S. Congressman Adam Smith secured funding for the project that will also improve the image of international trade throughout the state and create awareness of career and training opportunities that lead to family wage jobs. Washington state will need nearly 77,000 new employees in ITTL by 2018, according to estimates from the state’s Employment Security Department.

Learn more about the Center of Excellence for International Trade, Transportation and Logistics at www.ittlwa.com.

$135,000 aids high-demand programs

The Workforce Development Council of King County-Seattle awarded Highline more than $135,000 to provide training programs in Project Management and Medical Insurance Coding Specialist. The funding included membership fees for the students in professional organizations as well as national certification testing. Of the 52 students who enrolled, approximately 43 completed successfully. Three of those not finishing found jobs in project management while in school.

Learn more about Highline’s Continuing Education program at http://ce.highline.edu.

“Highline is only the fifth college in the United States to offer students the option of both a certificate and an AAS degree in the expanding medical field of polysomnography,” said Program Coordinator Nicki Bly.

Highline racks up honors

…Named the “Best in Higher Education” by the readers of the Federal Way Mirror. Highline has won this honor three years in a row.

…Recognized as one of the nation’s best colleges to work for, according to a survey by The Chronicle of Higher Education, a top news source about colleges and universities. Highline was also one of the 39 institutions selected for The Chronicle’s Honor Roll, an honor that recognizes the top colleges and universities in their size categories — small, medium and large. Highline won in the medium-sized category.

…Voted the favorite place to work in the education and training category by the readers of NWjobs.com (part of The Seattle Times Company).

Diversity: Serving community

Strategic Initiative #2: Enhance a college climate that values diversity and global perspectives.

Lucimar Landry spoke only Portuguese when she came to the United States in 2006. With the help of Highline, she can tell you — in English — about her new life with her husband, son and future goals.

It has not been easy, but the Des Moines resident is determined. Her motto: “Keep going.”

Helping people like Landry is one reason Highline is here. At the heart of the college’s core values is to serve its community. Community members like Landry, new to the United States and needing to learn English to pursue a college degree or certificate.

Highline’s Transition Referral and Resource Center provides advising and coaching services to help upper-level English-as-a-Second-Language (ESL) students transition to college-level courses. The center also connects students to funding opportunities and other services on campus.

“For many ESL students, navigating college requirements is daunting. For them, the process is analogous to using a knife and a chopstick,” said Mouy-ly Wong of the center. “At the center, we give them assistance and coaching in learning how to use the tools that will help them become successful.”
One of the goals of the center is to help these students complete a college certificate in one of Highline’s Integrated Basic Education Skills Training (I-BEST) programs. I-BEST programs train students to work in specific professions while improving their English language skills.

During spring 2010, 425 students received help from the center.

Landry is thankful for the center’s help. Now Landry is working on her associate’s degree. Her goal? To become an accountant. As she said, she will “keep going.”

Learn more about the Transition Referral and Resource Center and some of its successful students at http://flightline.highline.edu/transitioncenter.

Welcome, bienvenida, vítězte
At Highline’s 2010 Commencement, Student Programs coordinated the fourth year of the International Welcome program during the ceremony. The welcome consists of international speakers coming to the stage to greet family and friends in their home languages. During the June 2010 event, 24 different languages were represented.

View photos from the June 2010 Commencement at www.highline.edu/home/success/2010grad.

Hula at Highline
Highline’s large Pacific Islander student population was honored in May 2010 with the institutionalization of Pacific Islander Awareness Month. The educational program was supplemented by the second annual Highline Luau sponsored by the Pacific Islander Club. The luau was one of the college’s largest events of the year with 530 guests and more than 100 performers from Highline and four other educational institutions.

Learn more about Highline’s clubs and organizations by visiting Student Programs at www.highline.edu/stuserv/programs.

Help for health care professionals
Seventeen internationally trained health care professionals, all clients of Highline’s Welcome Back Center, completed a Fundamentals of Caregiving Training of Trainers program. As of January 2010, they were prepared to teach the Fundamentals of Caregiving curriculum — now required for all home care aides in Washington — to students in English and in 10 other languages. This innovative train-the-trainer project resulted from a collaboration with the Northwest Training Partnership, the Service Employees International Union, the Welcome Back Center and Highline’s Continuing Education program.

Learn more about the Welcome Back Center at http://welcomeback.highline.edu.

Highline Community College is a member of the American Association of Community Colleges, a national organization representing 1,200 colleges serving more than 11 million students nationwide.
Involvement: Advancing opportunity

Strategic Initiative #3: Strengthen and expand the presence and role of the college within the communities it serves.

Margie Nelson was laid off from her job in January 2009 and decided to pursue a new career. She wanted to open her own business, but didn’t know how to proceed.

She was referred to Highline’s StartZone by a friend. The program provides free services to members, including business consulting and planning, workshops and peer support.

“The most important thing I got from StartZone was the message ‘You can do this!’ ” Nelson said. “There were times during the process when I started to doubt the wisdom of starting a business. But then I would go in and meet with Mike [Skinner] and his enthusiasm and confidence in my ability to pull it off got me back on track.”

“When I heard about the StartZone program, it sounded like just what I needed,” Nelson said.

Since opening in October 2008, StartZone has enrolled and served 267 women, people of color, immigrants and people with disabilities who want to start or expand their small businesses in Southwest King County.

“We’ve helped our members launch 28 new businesses, creating nearly 60 new jobs, and have helped obtain nearly $150,000 in financing,” said Skinner, StartZone’s program manager.

Nelson opened Blue Vanilla Bakery with her daughter, Ashley, in fall 2010. The Des Moines’ bakery and café sells pastries, breads and special occasion cakes, as well as lunch items and espresso.
When Federal Way resident Salam Saoudi lost his job in the restaurant industry after 16 years, he followed his dream of introducing Moroccan food to the mainstream public. “I thought, ‘This is the time, while I still have energy.’”

StartZone helped Saoudi develop a business plan with sound financial projections, analyze offers for the sale of existing restaurants and negotiate a lease for his present location.

The Sahara Bite of Morocco opened at The Commons at Federal Way’s food court early March 2010.

StartZone was established by a grant from the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Learn more about StartZone and its successful members at http://startzone.highline.edu.

K-12 communities come to campus

Highline’s Outreach Services was active throughout 2009–10 at schools, college fairs and postsecondary nights, in addition to events at community-based locations. Outreach hosted two special on-campus events during fall 2009: Principal/Counselor Day and Heritage Leadership Camp.

The annual Principal/Counselor Day brings in counselors, assistant principals and principals from area high schools for a day of information sharing and gathering. The event has been helpful to increase communications between groups and provide the avenue for staying abreast of changes in both the K-12 and community college systems.

Heritage Leadership Camp, a partnership with the Federal Way Public Schools, works to improve the achievement gap for middle school young men of color. The program has grown since last year and currently serves 75 young men from the local middle schools. As an added feature this year, several Highline students of color participated during the event, providing encouraging words to the young men.

Learn more about Outreach Services at www.highline.edu/ia/outreach/.

New horizons at Highline

Approximately 300 seventh- and eighth-grade girls attended Highline’s Expanding Your Horizons event in March 2010. Students from area schools came to campus for workshops in math, science and technology. Gov. Chris Gregoire’s policy adviser for science and education, Leslie Goldstein, provided the keynote address.

Learn more about Expanding Your Horizons through Highline’s Women’s Programs at www.highline.edu/stuserv/womensprograms.

Careers and colleges

Highline hosted its annual Spring Festival, one of the most energetic, inspiring and informative events of the year. In its 12th year, the event benefited local school district students, the local community, as well as current Highline students, connecting them to educational opportunities and careers. Activities included a college fair with representatives from both in-state and out-of-state four-year institutions, several college- and career-related workshops, a barbecue lunch and live entertainment. Between 300 and 400 students from the Kent, Tukwila, Auburn and Sea-Tac school districts attended the day-long event.
**INNOVATION:**

**Acknowledging excellence**

**STRATEGIC INITIATIVE #4:** Sustain an open, honest and collaborative environment that is responsive to the needs of the college community and that promotes good stewardship of the college's financial resources.

Many Highline students, staff and faculty members were recognized during the 2009–10 academic year for their educational achievements, community contributions and professional excellence. While not comprehensive, we introduce some of the high achievers.

**Superior students**

**Janis Elain**, of Seattle, won a Washington Award for Vocational Excellence scholarship, recognizing excellence in career and technical education. She graduated in June 2010 with an Associate of Applied Science degree from the Business Information Technology program. She holds a 3.98 GPA and will be attending Central Washington University to finish her four-year degree. The award pays for tuition and other educational expenses for two years.

**Anna Boyd**, of Tukwila, and **Wassan Singh**, of Auburn, were named members of the 2010 All-Washington Academic Team for their academic achievement and community service. All-Washington Academic Team members receive a $250 scholarship from KeyBank of Washington and a $500 scholarship from Northwest Education Loan Association. In addition, Boyd received national recognition as a 2010 Coca-Cola Bronze Scholar. Selection as a Coca-Cola Scholar is based on scores earned in the All-USA Academic Team competition.

**Carol Graf**, of SeaTac, received a Tourism Cares 2010 Academic Scholarship. She was one of only 54 travel, tourism and hospitality students to earn the award across the United States and Canada. In addition to her award of $1,500, she was invited to attend the annual National Tour Association convention.

Respiratory Care students **Maryna Haydash** and **Ruzhena Rzhyska**, both of Kent, were named the Mike Sipes Student Scholars for 2010. Sipes graduated from Highline’s Respiratory Care program in 1976. His family started an educational foundation after his untimely death. Each student received a $300 award and are the first in a long line of future Mike Sipes Student Scholars.

**Dawit Bekele Jr.**, of Tacoma, was awarded a Next Step Scholarship from the University of Washington – Tacoma. It is worth as much as $9,000 in the next two years. A Highline Honors Scholar, Bekele was a high school completion student at Highline in 1999; his mother had encouraged him to go back to school and continue his education.

**Yun-Chieh “Mandy” Pai** received the Shirley B. Gordon Award for Academic Excellence. She graduated as a Highline Honors Scholar in June 2010 and has been accepted at several schools to continue her undergraduate work. Dr. Shirley B. Gordon was Highline’s president from 1976 to 1990.
Standout staff and faculty

Highline was recognized at an honorary luncheon as a Star Partner in the Partners for Life program, sponsored through the Puget Sound Blood Center. Highline’s Nursing Program Coordinator Teri Trillo, of Burien, assisted students in the nursing club in organizing the blood drives. Highline has registered more than 2,900 donors since 1994 and the college’s donations have potentially benefited up to 8,865 patients in the region.

Seattle’s Jonathan Brown, associate dean of Student Programs – Center for Leadership and Service, received the 2009 Lori Rhett Professional Award. This is one of the highest honors bestowed to professionals in student programs in Washington state. The award is given for innovation and for bringing new services or activities to a campus that can impact the entire state system.

Tacoma’s Rashad Norris, director of Outreach Services, was appointed to the Governor’s Commission on African American Affairs. It is a five-year appointment.

Toni Castro, vice president for Student Services, received the Rhonda Quash Coats Award for Excellence in Multicultural Student Services. Living in Renton, Castro has worked at Highline for more than 15 years.

Kent’s Rich Shockley, of the Small Business Development Center, was recognized at the SBDC Professional Development Meeting for outstanding performance. The SBDC recognizes business advisers whose assistance to clients show economic development outcomes. Shockley was presented the One Million Dollar Club Award for 2009.

Business instructor Jeff Ward, of Lake Forest Park, earned the Leadership & Innovation in eLearning Award for his leadership and achievements in electronic learning. The award is given by the eLearning Council of Washington’s community and technical college system. The honor comes with $200 and a grant for an all-expenses paid trip to a statewide conference.

Dr. Elizabeth Chen, of Federal Way, was appointed to the Washington State Board for Community & Technical Colleges. She was a distinguished member of Highline’s Board of Trustees from 1995 until her March 2010 appointment.

Highline’s classified staff members held their annual food drive in December 2009. Working with local businesses for many of the donations, classified staff members collected approximately 500 pounds of food and $700 in cash for the Des Moines Area Food Bank.
A look at Highline

Highline Community College was founded in 1961 as the first community college in King County. Its main campus is located in Des Moines on an 80-acre hillside overlooking Puget Sound and the Olympic Mountains. Only 20 minutes south of downtown Seattle, the college is midway between Seattle and Tacoma.

Highline is nationally and internationally recognized as a premier community college, a reputation earned through the development of an institutional culture that values innovation, globalization of curriculum and community participation.

Highline is one of 34 community and technical colleges in the state of Washington and is accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities.

The college serves approximately 18,900 students and has more than 350,000 alumni. For almost 50 years, Highline’s alumni have been making their mark all over the world.

Mission statement
We deliver innovative education and training opportunities to foster your personal and professional success in our multicultural world and global economy. We help you build a better future.

Vision statement
Highline Community College is valued as the educational crossroads where dreams are shaped, communities created and excellence achieved.

Values
Highline Community College is committed to the following values:

ACCESS: We believe education should be available to all who seek it.

COLLABORATION: We value teamwork, joint responsibility and ownership.

COMMUNITY: We value our community and are dedicated to serving its educational needs.

DIVERSITY: We respect the rights and perspectives of the diverse populations who live, learn and work in our community.

EXCELLENCE: We strive for the highest quality in all our programs and services.

INTEGRITY: We believe in honesty and trustworthiness in all our college practices.

INTERNATIONALIZATION: We value a global perspective and respect cultural diversity.

LEARNING: We develop an interactive, creative and learner-centered environment that supports student success.

Of the 2010 graduates...
The youngest graduates were 17.
The oldest graduate was 68.
Our students*

Total credit and non-credit students: 18,993 (58% female, 42% male)
Total credit students: 10,731 (57% of all students; median age 24)
Total number of international students: 547
Total number of Running Start students: 923

Self-reported ethnicity of the student population (credit and non-credit)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African American</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other/Foreign National/Multi-racial</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic/Latino</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native American or Alaska Native</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(note: Hispanic students are no longer calculated separately from non-Hispanic students.)

Students’ most recent purpose for enrollment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>attend for basic skills programs</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>attend to transfer to a 4-year college/university</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>attend for work-related courses (current or future)</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>attend for undeclared or other educational objectives</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>attend for personal enrichment</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>attend for high school completion programs</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students who transferred to public 4-year institutions from Highline in 2008-09

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University of Washington (all campuses)</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Washington University (all campuses)</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington State University (all campuses)</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Washington University or The Evergreen State College</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Washington University</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students by city (Top 10):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Students</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federal Way</td>
<td>3,983</td>
<td>21.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kent</td>
<td>3,106</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Des Moines</td>
<td>2,131</td>
<td>11.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SeaTac</td>
<td>1,850</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tukwila</td>
<td>1,524</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auburn</td>
<td>1,472</td>
<td>7.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burien</td>
<td>1,394</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seattle</td>
<td>804</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renton</td>
<td>667</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tacoma</td>
<td>639</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The 2010 graduating class

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Graduates</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1,743</td>
<td>1,438 earned two-year degrees with 27 earning more than one two-year degree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>326</td>
<td>36 earned a high school diploma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>239</td>
<td>203 were immigrants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>138</td>
<td>58 were refugees</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Of the graduates...

*Profile of students as reported in the 2009–10 academic year.
Building Highline’s foundation

Nearly $400,000 in lasting legacies

The Highline Foundation received a number of notable donations during 2009–10:

Gene Newman and Justine Richards established an eponymous student emergency endowed fund with a donation of $60,000.

The college received $68,000 from the Philip R. and Grace C. Gruger Charitable Remainder Unitrust.

June Rey, a former Highline student, left a bequest to Highline of $32,000.

$75,000 in scholarships

Thanks to the generosity of community members, businesses, service organizations and Highline employees, $75,000 in scholarships were awarded to Highline students last year for use during the 2010–11 academic year.

BECU
Peter Obert, Federal Way
Bob and Eleanor Baugher
Phon Tran, Federal Way
Breeders Theater
Ioana Blanaru, Des Moines
Spencer Wright, Seattle
Burien Challenge to Excellence
Genesis Henandez, Seattle
Des Moines Rotary International Leadership and Service
Christine Waltner, Des Moines
Eddie Black Endowed Memorial
Percy Strowhorn, Federal Way
Federal Way Rotary
Stephani Stewart, Federal Way
Highline Exchange Club “Hand Up”
Sarah Holmes, Kent
Highline Foundation New Century
Maverick Antonio, Auburn
Rasheem Graham, Federal Way
Donald Krook, Tacoma
Richie Lie, Federal Way
Jaime Owen, SeaTac
Shanil Prasad, Federal Way
Katrina Winn, Graham
Yonas Woldekidan, SeaTac
John and Robin Huber
Teresa Chin, Kent
Wesley Willoughby, Des Moines
Leona Hickman Educational Trust
Dong Jin Lee, Kent
Les and Eleanor Rowley “Turnaround” Student
Crysta Zellmer, Auburn
Pat Anderson Endowment
Maria Buckingham, Tacoma
Ruth Murphy Nursing
S谢xena-Eva Austria, Kent
Jaime Daniel, Renton
Jennifer Duncan, Federal Way
Erika Estes, Auburn
Debra Garfield, Federal Way
Song Kim, Tacoma
Somavanh Sakdy, Fife
Erin van der Helder, Seattle
Ruth Reilly Endowed
Theresa Arnell, Kent
Sandy Moser Honorary
Nhat Bui, Federal Way
Soroptimist International Seattle, South Endowed
Anni Alger, Missoula
South Puget Sound Chinese Language School
Nhat Bui, Federal Way
Stella Larson Endowment
Lisa Wohler, Kent
Vern and Jean Warmbo New Beginnings
Jessica Galvez, Covington
Courtney Morrell, Seahurst
Monica Samuel, Federal Way
Phon Tran, Federal Way
Danielle Woodward, Tukwila
A grand gala

The 2010 Highline Community College Foundation Gala raised $75,000 demonstrating outstanding community support for Highline’s students at the annual event. The 160 attendees enjoyed dinner, dancing and a live auction at Cedarbrook Lodge in SeaTac.

“There was incredible support and bidding on absolutely every item in spite of today’s economic uncertainty,” said Rod Stephenson, executive director of Resource Development.

Event sponsors were BECU, BNY Mellon, Denny Miller and Associates, Dollar Rental Car, KeyBank, Mountain Construction and the Yoshida Group.

2009–10 Donors*

$2,500 plus
Dan and Marieta Altman
Jim and Pam Becker
BECU
Jack and Gail Bermingham
Boeing Company Matching Fund
Elizabeth and Mark Chen
City of Des Moines
City of Tukwila
John Clements
Des Moines Rotary Club
Exchange Club of Highline
Grace Gruger
KeyBank National Association
Mellon Bank
Mike and Kris Milholland
Justine Richards and Gene Newman
Port of Seattle
Regeimbl, McDonald, PLLC
Rod Risley
Vicki Shelton
Shirley B. Gordon Trust
Lisa Skari
Soroptimist of Seattle South Ways and

$1,000–$2,499
Tim and Teri Wooding
US Bank
Sports for Youth Foundation
Rod and Sue Stephenson

$500–$999
American Psychological Association
Cheryl Carino-Burre
Patricia Dawson, MD
Lawrence and Stella Destro
Tim and Lori DeVore
Employers Community Fund of The
Boeing Co.
Highline Retired Teachers Assoc.
Joan and Robin Huber
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Marc Lenti
Susan Lipston
Alice Madsen
Sheila McGraw
Michelle Menely
Timara Merrill
Ed Morris
Jean Munro
Tom and Betty Jean O’Neal
Opticians Association of Washington
Drake and Katherine Pesce
Shannon and Associates
Todd Suckan
Ezra and Yobi Teshome
Allan Walton
Lenny Kaneko and Amy Sanbo
Yamamoto
Marie and Alvin Zimmermann

$249 and under
Barbara Anderson
Kimberly Cooper
Bob Broek
Courtenay Gber
Linda Bjorneby
Morgan Griffith

Breakfast of champions

In November 2009, the Highline Community College Foundation’s first fundraising breakfast proved to be a great way to start the day, raising more than $7,000 for student scholarships. Junki Yoshida, CEO of the Yoshida Group, served as keynote speaker and Andy Wappner, former KIRO-TV weatherman and renewable energy spokesman for Puget Sound Energy, was the breakfast’s MC. Always entertaining and highly motivational, Yoshida was the 2003 winner of Highline’s Distinguished Alumni Award.

2009–10 Donors*

$1515

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*We have made every effort to ensure that the list of donors is both accurate and complete. If your name or the name of your company has been omitted, misspelled or otherwise improperly repeated, contact the Highline Community College Foundation.
Making her mark:
King in 2010

Highline named Deborah King — founder and president of Final Touch Finishing School in Decatur, Texas — its 2010 Distinguished Alumni Award winner for her work raising civility awareness around the globe.

“No matter what a person does in life, someone taught them the skills they needed to be successful,” said King who graduated from Highline in 1991. “I am grateful to HCC for preparing me for my future, so that I can prepare others.”

King has more than 30 years of experience in the etiquette and image industry. She teaches students around the globe how to evaluate social and business situations and how to respond appropriately based on cultural considerations.

King credits Highline and her mentor, former Highline Professor Dr. Robin Buchan, for helping her on the path toward success.

During her time at Highline, she began developing a program aimed at helping youth in life and social skills. She decided to start the Final Touch Finishing School, originally located in Seattle.

“The range of courses offered by Highline provided me with the tools I rely on every day. I am especially grateful to Dr. Robin Buchan. His standards were high and he gave life to every subject he taught,” King said. “His leadership inspired me to press on and reach for my dreams. It is my goal to do the same for the students I interact with today.”

See page 3 for other Highline alums making their mark around the world.

Do you have comments or questions about Highline or this report? We want to hear from you. Call Lisa Skari at (206) 870-3705 or e-mail lskari@highline.edu.