

North News Briefs



DECEMBER 2024

Welcome to this month's North News Briefs. If you have news to share with the North Seattle College community, please send it to northcommunications@seattlecolleges.edu. The content submission deadline is the last day of the month. Please try to keep your submission to 150 words or less.

PONDER THIS

* **National Giving Month** – As we enter the holiday season, it is no surprise that December is considered the Month of Giving, revolving around people making a difference in society by helping others. Last year, Americans gave \$410.2 billion to charity, more than ever before. Nearly one third of annual giving occurs in December and 12% in the last three days of the year. For nonprofit organizations, 28% will raise as much as half of their funding this month. And yet, neither Congress nor the Executive Branch has officially dedicated December or any month to acts of volunteerism or charitable giving. [Learn more.](#)



TREE FROG TIDBITS

* **Welcome to North!** Joining North in November were **Fay Barnett**, Student Learning Center; **Shraddha Bock**, Workforce Instruction; **Paul Briant**, Workforce Instruction; **Adam Bullock**, Math and Science; **Mengru Cao**, Workforce Instruction; **Yay-Hyung Cho**, Workforce Instruction; **Andrea Dahl**, Financial Aid and Veteran Affairs; **Kira Franz-Knight**, Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences; **Lindsey Gard**, Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences; **Otto Greule**, Continuing Education; **Brooke Jordan**, Workforce Instruction; **John Lee**, Workforce Instruction; and **Kyle Morean**, Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences.

* **Seattle Promise Welcomes New Retention Specialist at North** – The Seattle Promise team at North recently welcomed a new retention specialist, **Edsel Blanche**. Edsel is taking on the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM)-Physical Sciences advising caseload and will be partnering with many Tree Frogs in the coming months. He brings experience working in social services as a case manager for clients with complex health needs, enrolling people into public benefits and doing program management for a family resource center in the north Seattle area.

* **New Student Conduct Officer at North** – **Michael Chen**, who most recently served as an equal opportunity specialist for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, was recently named as North's new student conduct officer. Michael started his role in October and has been busy participating in Association for Student Conduct Administration trainings.

* **New Workforce Education Specialist in Worker Retraining Joins NSC** – Miski Ugas, an educational professional with more than 15 years of experience, has joined North as a workforce educational specialist, focusing on worker retraining. Miski has held many roles over the years, including engagement specialist, learning coach, education advocate and program manager, primarily serving the south King County region.

* **Arnulfo Ramirez Named Permanent Director of Security** – As announced in a Nov. 12 email from Kristen Burton, vice president, Administrative Services, **Arnulfo “Oso” Ramirez** accepted the permanent director of Safety and Security position at North. Oso has been serving in the director role on an interim basis for more than a year. He has a long history at North, both as a student and team member.

RIBBETING NEWS

* **North Team Wins Competition at UW Foster School of Business** – For the seventh time in eight years, a team from North took first place in the community college group of the Russell Investments Case Competition at the University of Washington Foster School of Business Nov. 16. The annual competition challenges students to put their studies and knowledge into practice by proposing solutions to current real-world business problems. [Learn more.](#)



* **NSC’s Parenting Education Program Featured in Mary’s Place Blog** – NSC’s partnership with Mary’s Place was highlighted in a recent blog post. Since 1999, Mary’s Place has helped thousands of women and families move out of homelessness into more stable situations. The blog focused on the Parenting Circles program, offered weekly onsite at Mary’s Place Shelters. NSC has partnered with Mary’s Place for more than 10 years to offer caregivers with babies a safe and compassionate place to ask questions and find support. NSC faculty member Kristina Weidert was featured in the piece. [Learn more.](#)

* **North EMT Program Receives Grant from Medic One Foundation** – NSC’s Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) program recently was awarded an equipment grant from the Medic One Foundation to purchase new “Stop the Bleed” wound-packing training aids and automated external defibrillator (AED) trainers. The new wound-packing trainers will allow students to practice and hone their skills in a safe, controlled environment. As for the AED trainers, to be effective in cardiac arrest resuscitation, CPR should be performed with a portable defibrillator until emergency services arrive. [Learn more.](#)

* **NSC Students Earn National Rocketry Certifications** – Congratulations to four Rocketry Club members who achieved National Association of Rocketry certifications during fall quarter. Mohamed Bin Nagi earned Level 2 certification, and Henry Hong and Alan Beem earned Level 1 certifications Sept. 30 at the Tri-Cities Rocketeers launch site in Pasco, Wash. Leon Lange earned Level 1 certification at the Nov. 2 launch at the same site. [Learn more.](#)

* **Winter Ad Campaign Features North Student** – If you are on social media, keep an eye out for North’s winter ad campaign featuring a video of student Rayne Renney. The campaign is currently running through the beginning of winter quarter on Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat and TikTok. Digital ads also appear on Google and via geofencing (location-based service in which ads appear on users’ mobile devices when they enter or exit a specific geographical boundary). To view the results of North’s fall quarter campaign, which ran in August and September, click [here](#).



* **STARS Leading Holiday Fund Drive for Student Food Pantry** – Last year, STARS ran a very successful warm sock and hygiene drive for North’s food bank partner, University Food Bank. This year, STARS is looking to capitalize on that success and encourage folks to support the American Association of Community Colleges fundraiser created by Jeanette Miller, dean, Student Support Services, and Maura Nakamichi, manager, Benefits Hub and Food Pantry, to develop and run a [student-facing food pantry](#). For more information, please refer to the recent emails that have been sent to all campus.

* **Expedia Group Celebrates Emerging Talent** – Expedia Group has partnered with the Seattle Colleges Foundation to provide students with the [Career Exploration Program](#), a professional development program focused on preparing students for full-time positions in the technology industry. To help promote and celebrate this emerging talent, Expedia Group recently shared photos and information about the programs on [LinkedIn](#), highlighting students from North’s Computer Science Bachelor of Science and Application Development Bachelor of Applied Science programs during a recent visit to the company.

* **Honor Societies Back at North** – NSC has two active honor societies: [Phi Theta Kappa \(PTK\)](#) and the [National Society of Leadership and Success \(NSLS\)](#). Invitations were sent to all qualifying students by [Jeanette Miller](#), dean, Student Support Services, so if students come to you with questions, please refer them to Jeanette.

* **Campus Station Weathers Storm** – During the November windstorm associated with the bomb cyclone off the Pacific, the NSC campus weather station clocked a new record wind speed of 63 miles per hour (101.4 kilometers per hour). As we head into the winter months, this is a reminder that current campus weather conditions are reported on the [North website](#). The webpage also offers a live video feed from the north end of the Instruction Building, which provides views of the freeway, the John Lewis bridge, and the north campus parking lots. Thank you to the lab technicians and Information Technology team who maintain this helpful resource.

* **Last Hours for Fall Tutoring** – Please make a note that the last tutoring sessions for fall quarter will be offered in the next few days. For a complete list by subject of days and hours when the last tutoring will be available, please see the [Student Learning Center website](#).

* **EAP Offerings for December** – As December begins, the [Washington State Employee Assistance Program \(EAP\)](#) is offering a number of resources to help you prepare for the new

year with hope and intention. Please see the Nov. 27 email from District Human Resources for links and additional details.

LILY PAD HAPPENINGS

* **Campus Holiday Parter this Wednesday, Dec. 4** – North’s campus holiday party is set for this Wednesday, Dec. 4, from 2 to 3:30 p.m., in the North Star Dining Room. All student employees, staff and faculty are invited to join in celebrating the near completion of fall quarter and sharing best wishes for the new year.

* **Movie Viewing to Support Holiday Fund Drive** – To highlight the prevalence of food insecurity, North’s Basic Needs team is hosting a viewing of Hungry to Learn, this Thursday, Dec. 5, at 5 p.m. in the TRiO Lounge (College Center building, room 1349A). The event will also feature a short student-made film about food insecurity at North. To support this year’s STARS holiday fund drive for the new student-facing food pantry, visit the [donation website](#).

* **New Student Orientation Coming Dec. 11** – On Wednesday, Dec. 11, from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., North will be welcoming new students to the campus community through the in-person New Student Orientation. This event gives students an opportunity to connect with campus departments and resources, meet their Area of Study faculty and staff, and build a sense of belonging. To make the orientation a success, volunteers are needed to help welcome the new students. It is anticipated that 40 to 50 students will attend, and about 10 volunteers are needed to help. If you are interested in volunteering, please complete this [one-minute form](#).

* **Continuing Education Student Concerts Coming Up** – Two concerts by Continuing Education students are planned in December. On Wednesday, Dec. 11, the Jazz Ensemble, directed by Fred Radke, will perform in the Library auditorium at 8 p.m. On Sunday, Dec. 15, there will be a Vocal Performance accompanied by the Jazz Ensemble in the Library auditorium at 2 p.m. This concert will be directed by Gina Funes and Fred Radke. Both concerts are free to attend.

* **Extracurricular IV: The NSC Art Faculty & Tech Exhibition** – Featuring the work of practicing artists who comprise North’s Art Department, *Extracurricular* highlights current work by this incredible group of makers. North’s art faculty and techs create work that is not only inspiring to the community in which they live, but it also serves as inspiration for the students they teach and with whom they interact. Their individual artistic practices are central to their teaching curriculum and, in turn, the experiences they have in the classroom greatly impact their work. Don’t miss this chance to see what North’s outstanding group of teaching artists has been working on when not in the classroom. The exhibition runs through Jan. 17. NSC Art Gallery hours are Monday through Thursday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Friday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

