

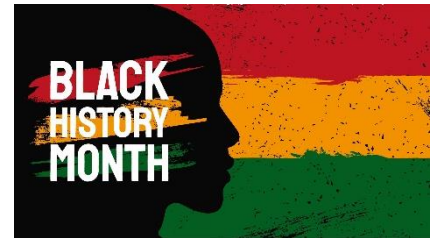


## **NORTH NEWS BRIEFS**

Welcome to this month's North News Briefs. If you have news you would like to share with the North Seattle College community, please send it to [northcommunications@seattlecolleges.edu](mailto: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.

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

\* **February is Black History Month** – Since 1976, every American president has designated February as Black History Month and endorsed a specific theme. This year's theme, [Black Resistance](#), explores how “African Americans have resisted historic and ongoing oppression, in all forms, especially the racial terrorism of lynching, racial pogroms and police killings,” since the nation's earliest days. It is a call to study the history of Black Americans' responses to establish safe spaces, where Black life can be sustained, fortified and respected. Sources: *History.com* and the *Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH)*.



## **PEOPLE**



\* **Welcome to North!** Joining North in January are **Marle Ethelbah**, program specialist 2, Roy Flores Wellness Center; **Brittany Harper**, interim director, Student Financial Services; **Byungcheon (BC) Ko**, application development faculty, Workforce Instruction; **Julianna Wellings Miller**, consultant 1, Human Resources; **Elidia Sangerman**, early child care and education faculty, Workforce Instruction; and **Angelea Smith**, early childhood specialist 3, Childcare Center.

\* **Christine Unutzer Selected Golden Star Employee** – Congratulations to Christine Unutzer, faculty coordinator for the writing center, who was honored as the Golden Star Employee of the Quarter by the STARS (Staff Representatives) Committee. Christine was presented with the award by her colleagues, former Golden Star recipients and many others during a surprise Zoom call Jan. 19. [Nominations are now open](#) for the Winter 2023 Golden Star Employee of the quarter. Deadline is Wednesday, Feb. 22.

\* **Jeanette Miller Joins Workforce Deans Academy** – Jeanette Miller, North's Director

of Workforce Education, was recently accepted into the Washington State Workforce Deans Academy (WDA). The WDA is a year-long training for community and technical college employees aspiring to higher level workforce leadership positions. The academy is designed to provide individuals with an understanding of the core elements of leadership in addition to the skills required to effectively administer workforce and professional/technical programs in Washington's community and technical college system. Congratulations, Jeanette!

\* **Jenny Mao Provides Testimony to Expand Mental Health Pilot Grant** – On Jan. 25, North's Dr. Jenny Mao, faculty counselor, provided live testimony in support of [SB 5513](#), expanding the Mental Health Pilot grant to an additional 12 colleges, and increasing pilot programs to 16 colleges. Dr. Mao shared with state legislators how one additional counselor increased students served by 100% and students of color were using services by a ratio of 2 to 1. Around 80% of students served re-enrolled the next quarter and students accessing services had above-average GPAs. She emphasized how the bill is about retention, equity, access, opportunity and responsibility to care for our most vulnerable students.

## AROUND CAMPUS

\* **Black History Month Film Screening Feb. 21** – On Tuesday, Feb. 21, from 5 to 7 p.m., in the Grove, North will host a film screening and Q&A of "Buffalo Soldiers: Fighting on Two Fronts," directed by Dru Holley. The one-hour documentary film examines the profound and often-contradictory roles played in American history by The Buffalo Soldiers, an African American regiment in the U.S. Army in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The Buffalo Soldiers fought military conflicts abroad and civil rights struggles at home. Holley will be at the event, which is free and open to the public, to answer questions after the presentation.



\* **Day of Remembrance Panel Coming Feb. 15** – You are invited to a panel honoring Day of Remembrance from 2 to 3:30 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 15, in the Grove. "Land, Legacies, and Decolonization," will be moderated by Zola Mumford, faculty, NSC Library, and feature three speakers: Janet Sekijima, retired program specialist, NSC Continuing Education; Mark Mitsui, former president, NSC; and Lydia Minatoya, author and retired faculty, NSC Counseling. Day of Remembrance marks the day in history when the United States put into motion the forced removal of those of Japanese descent from their homes and into incarceration sites. The event is cosponsored by Counseling and AANAPISI (Asian American & Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions), with support from the Office of Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Community (EDIC); the Library; and the Student Learning Center. Light refreshments will be served.

\* **Drive for U District Food Bank Underway** – From now through Monday, Feb. 13, North is hosting a food drive for the University District Food Bank, our Tuesday Food Pantry partner. Drop off your donations across campus at any of these locations: Library, Math & Science (second floor of Instruction Building), Basic & Transitional

Studies (second floor of IB), Equity and Welcome Center, Micro-Market near the Grove, Student Learning Center, President's Office, and the Opportunity Center. Please refer to [this guide](#) for a list of foods most needed or in short supply. ([Learn more](#) about the U District Food Bank.)

**\* Campus-wide Fire Drill Set for Feb. 23** – NSC's Campus Safety and Security Department will be conducting a campus-wide fire drill at 9 a.m. on Thursday, Feb. 23. Unlike recent fire drills, this one will affect all faculty, staff, students and visitors on campus at that time. Everyone will be required to evacuate to their emergency assembly area. In addition to the fire alarm, the campus emergency alert system (RAVE) will be used for the drill – both at the beginning of the drill and for the all-clear message upon the drill's completion. If you have any questions, please contact Campus Safety and Security at (206) 934-3646.

**\* SBCTC Hosts DACUM for Computer Science at North** – The State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC) hosted a Developing a Curriculum (DACUM) event for Computer Science at North on Jan 27. Faculty and staff members from Washington's CTC system, as well as industry representatives, were in attendance. The DACUM focused on the prevailing industry needs for computer science graduates. The input received from the industry will be shared broadly within the SBCTC system to help inform curriculum and program content.

**\* Wellness Center Creates Accessible and Inclusive Offerings** – The Roy Flores Wellness Center (RFWC) is making physical fitness more accessible to the North community by opening a fitness clothing closet, where students can pick up athletic attire and shoes. RFWC has also added a trans, non-binary, and women's power hour to their course offerings. Lastly, a Gender Inclusivity and Accessibility Committee is being assembled in effort to make RFWC an inclusive, accessible, and safe environment for all. The committee's objectives will focus on ways to improve the layout, equipment, and programs offered to meet the needs of the LGBTQIA+ community as well as members with disabilities.

**\* Ideas of Home Exhibition in NSC Art Gallery** – The NSC Art Gallery is currently presenting an exhibition called "Ideas of Home" through March 3. After the last few years in which most of us spent more time "at home" than we ever imagined we would, ideas of home have expanded. The eight artists whose work is included in this show are brought together around this theme of home, though their standpoints and perspectives may differ. Gallery hours are Monday through Thursday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Friday, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**\* FERPA Training on Zoom Feb. 10** – What is faculty and library staff's obligations around the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, otherwise known as FERPA? Kathy Rhodes, dean, Enrollment Services, will provide all the do's and don'ts about how to handle student information appropriately during this [Zoom session](#), which begins at 1 p.m. Friday, Feb. 10.

\* **NSC Counselors to Present at ACC** – On Feb 3, NSC counselors are providing professional development training at the quarterly Advising and Counseling Council (ACC) state meeting, sharing their *Lessons Learned from the First Year Mental Health Pilot Grant - Promising Practices*. Counselors will co-present with Lake Washington Technical College on the work of destigmatizing and decolonizing mental health services on their individual campuses.

\* **Discover Seattle Colleges Open House at North March 9** –

Mark your calendars and help spread the word for the Discover Seattle Colleges Open House in the Grove on Thursday, March 9, from 3 to 6 p.m. This is a chance for our campus to welcome

prospective students and their families by providing

classroom/department tours; information about student onboarding services, academic degrees and financial aid; and an opportunity to talk with advisors. More information will be coming, and you can [download a flier](#) or [visit the website](#) for current details.



\* **Free Mindful Meditation Zoom Sessions Each Monday** – Mindful Meditation Zoom sessions are available free to all current students and staff, led by mindfulness team members from all three Seattle Colleges, on Mondays throughout Winter Quarter. The sessions are from 12:10 to 12:30 p.m. The meeting room URL is <https://tinyurl.com/yyx4eh9n>, password is *Bliss!* and meeting ID is 994 361 6626.

\* **New Hours of Operation for the Grove** – To help ensure the safety of students, faculty and staff, and align with campus security and facilities resources, new hours for the Grove went into effect recently. The new hours are Monday-Thursday, 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday, 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.; and closed on holidays. Please note these hours do not apply to the Micro-Market, which is currently open Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Friday from 8 a.m. to noon. If you have any questions, please contact Campus Security and Safety, (206) 934-3636.

\* **Construction Updates** – Here is an update on current campus construction projects:

- Library – Construction is focused on finishing the roof and the new parapet has been installed. Once the roofing is completed, the Verizon Wireless Tower will return to its original location on the roof. Electrical switch gear is scheduled to ship soon, a new elevator has been confirmed, and long lead-times continue to be an issue as the project moves along. Focus is shifting to lower levels as the second and third floors are now enclosed and there is still much work to do on the lower levels before they can also be enclosed.
- Classroom Renovations – The project is going to bid mid-February. As soon as a contractor is lined up, a schedule and timeline will be developed. This project will replace all classroom carpet on the third floor of the Instruction and College Center buildings and update all furniture to meet ADA standards.
- Water Reclamation in HSSR Building – McKinstry will install a new water filtration system with a UV light to kill bacteria in the Health Science and Student Resources (HSSR) building. This new system will allow restoring the original

water reclamation system that supplies water to all restroom toilets and urinals in the building. The system was shut down about a year after the building opened in 2017. Water is collected from roof drains and stored in three 5,000-gallon cisterns in the garage. The water is pumped thru large filters, then past a UV light to sterilize the water. This system will save thousands of gallons of water each month. Seattle Public Utilities is studying the system to see if it can offer a rebate for up to 50% of the installation cost. This has never been offered to anyone in Washington before.

- Opportunity Center Second Floor Lobby – The Washington State Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) has requested adding two additional doors, enclosing the interview carrels. The project is out for bid, and once bids are received, a contractor will be selected and notice to proceed will occur.
- Facilities Update – A nonhazardous natural gas leak was discovered at the north end of the Arts and Sciences building. Small fittings from the valve were removed and someone attempted to remove a small copper sense line, causing the leak. Auburn Mechanical was able to repair the line while Puget Sound Energy was on site to shut off and restore the gas. Power to the Education building was restored after discovering a main power line was shorting to ground. Facilities worked with the State Department of Enterprise Services (DES) to claim a state of emergency to speed the process with hiring a contractor to make emergency repairs.

## OUR COMMUNITY

\* **Ballard Rotary Donates Produce on North's Behalf** – The Rotary Club of Ballard recently made a donation equal to 300 pounds of produce on North's behalf to [Harvest Against Hunger](#). The donation was a gesture of gratitude in response to President Dr. Chemene Crawford appearing at a recent Rotary program in which she updated the organization on the current happenings and events at North.

## IN THE NEWS

\* **Q&A: Why Paul Francis Wants You to Reconsider Community College** – The Seattle Times' Education Lab featured an interview with Paul Francis, executive director of the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC). In it, Francis mentions the state legislature's authorization two years ago to offer bachelor of science in computer science degrees at community colleges. North Seattle's program is mentioned. [Learn more](#).

