BUILDING THE FUTURE OF STEM

THE UW BOTHELL WAY

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SERVING STUDENTS AND THE STATE

DEAR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS,

A little more than five years ago, we established our School of Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics, one of the first truly interdisciplinary schools of STEM anywhere. Our hope was to become the most significant provider of STEM education along the I-405 Tech Corridor.

It is fair to say that this goal has been reached: In five short years, the school became our largest, almost tripling the number of students it serves with almost 30 different programs of study.

But demand for these fields of study continues to grow — from students and employers across the region. Seeing our success and recognizing the state’s need for more STEM professionals, the Washington Legislature this spring made a significant investment in STEM education at UW Bothell and our campus partner Cascadia College.

Mark your calendars: This time next year, we plan to break ground on another academic building dedicated to STEM.

Why this growth? Why this level of success?

It is due in large part, of course, to the caliber of our students, faculty and staff. But it also comes from the relationships we build with industry and community partners — businesses, nonprofits and government agencies that need the kind of graduates that come from all five schools at UW Bothell. (Read more on page 6 about this dynamic in our School of STEM.)

I am proud that 90% of UW Bothell students stay right here in Washington after graduation to live and work. I am also proud that UW Bothell alumni earned the “best ROI” among all alumni from Washington state colleges, making on average $609,000 more over a 20-year period than do high school graduates across the state (see payscale.com).

The UW Bothell family has grown rapidly over the last 30 years. We now have almost 24,000 alumni who together are a force for good across the state and world. (Read more on page 10 about three of our “international” alumni.)

Our alumni are making an impact on campus as well. Earlier this year, for example, we were able to establish the first-ever endowment to support faculty excellence thanks to a generous gift from Michelle Gamboa (STEM ’05). She is giving back to her alma mater and honoring her father through the Ronald Gamboa Endowed Fund for Faculty Support in the School of STEM. Michelle’s generosity, and her father’s name, will forever be a part of UW Bothell’s success.

I invite all of you to be a continuing part of our success.

I hope you will stay close to your alma mater. I hope you come back to campus to visit. I hope you come to the great alumni events we hold throughout the year. I hope you help future classes of UW Bothell students by being a career adviser, guest speaker or mentor — or by opening doors for students to engage as interns or researchers where you work.

We have come a long way with the School of STEM in just five short years. We have come even further as a campus over the past 30 years.

Just think where we might go and what we might do before we turn 50!

Wolf Yeigh, Chancellor
THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON BOTHELL is one of the most dynamic public universities in the state of Washington. We offer a participatory student experience grounded in hands-on learning, close relationships with faculty members as teachers and mentors, and the personalized support of staff who are dedicated to student success. The academic work of the campus focuses on cross-disciplinary research and creative practice, connected learning and community engagement. UW Bothell’s current enrollment is approximately 6,000 students. More than 90% of undergraduates are from Washington state. About half are first-generation college students and about half come from underrepresented groups. Located between Seattle and Everett, UW Bothell builds vibrant regional partnerships, creates and disseminates new knowledge, and prepares students for leadership throughout Washington and beyond.

CHANCELLOR
Wolf Yeigh

UW BOTHELL 2018–19 ALUMNI COUNCIL
Mina Hooshangi (IAS ’11) – chair
Jean Balbon (IAS ’13)
Sarah Amos Bond (IAS ’98, MAPS ’09)
Nicole David (IAS ’13, M.Ed ’18)
Josh Edwards (BUS ’07)
Kevin Hannigan (BUS ’18)
David Hernandez (IAS ’03)
Mary Howisey (IAS ’02)
Jacqueline (IAS ’15)
Mandy Knudton (IAS ’12, MAPS ’14)
Amanda Lee (STEM ’18)
Holli Nolan (EDU ’18)
Rabeka Randall (IAS ’10)
Joe Santos (Liberal Studies ’97)
Christine Noel Straight (IAS ’00, MACS ’10)
Benjamin Studley (IAS ’16, MAPS ’18)
Curtis Takahashi (IAS ’04)
Eleanor Wort (STEM ’15)
Emily Anderson (IAS ’09) currently serves as the UW Bothell representative on the University of Washington Alumni Association Board of Trustees.

The Alumni Council gives its time, talent and treasure to support the University because of the remarkable change members believe it inspires. Join the Alumni Council!
www.uwb.edu/alumni/council
NEW LAW INSPIRED AT UW BOTHELL
A Washington law that requires college faculty to accommodate students whose religious practices may conflict with class schedules grew out of a biology class at UW Bothell.

FEDS CERTIFY UW EXCELLENCE IN CYBERSECURITY
Federal agencies recently redesignated the University of Washington as a National Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense Research. The center is managed by the Center for Information Assurance and Cybersecurity at UW Bothell.

CAMPUS SUSTAINS ITS SALMON-SAFE CERTIFICATION
For practices that avoid polluting runoff, the UW Bothell and Cascadia College campus has been recertified by Salmon-Safe, an environmental group dedicated to water quality for salmon.

SHARON JONES NAMED ACADEMIC AFFAIRS VICE CHANCELLOR
The UW Bothell has named Sharon A. Jones as its new vice chancellor for academic affairs, effective July 15. Jones has been the dean of the University of Portland’s Shiley School of Engineering.

TEACHING AWARD TO JULIE SHAYNE
This year’s recipient of the Distinguished Teaching Award is Julie Shayne, senior lecturer in the School of Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences (IAS) and faculty coordinator for Gender, Women & Sexuality Studies.

RESEARCH AWARD TO SURYA PATHAK
Surya Pathak, an associate professor in the School of Business, has been selected as the 2019 recipient of its Distinguished Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity award.

MENTOR AWARD TO ANDREA STONE
Andrea Stone, an assistant professor in School of Nursing & Health Studies was selected for the Chancellor’s Mentor of the Year Award.

STAFF AWARD TO SAM AL-KHOURY
Sam Al-Khoury, who helps shape the college experience for UW Bothell students as director of student engagement and activities, has been recognized for extraordinary service with a 2019 UW Distinguished Staff Award.

PRESIDENT’S MEDAL TO KAHEERMAN SAIBIRE
An international student from China and a member of its Uyghur ethnic minority, Kaheerman Saibire, who learned to speak English less than four years ago, is the recipient of UW Bothell’s 2019 President’s Medal.

CHANCELLOR’S MEDAL TO ANGELICA MENDOZA
A double major with a triple minor, Angelica Mendoza was awarded the UW Bothell Chancellor’s Medal. Asked what she wants to do, she says, “I want to do it all.”

HARRY POTTER AND THE CORE OF DISCOVERY
The Science and Medicine of Harry Potter, one of the most successful Discovery Core courses, asks first-year students at UW Bothell to research the topic from multiple disciplines.

UW BOTHELL NO. 4 FOR WOMEN IN COMPUTER SCIENCE
UW Bothell has been ranked No. 4 among four-year public colleges in the nation awarding bachelor degrees in computer science to women.

NURSING MASTER’S PROGRAM AMONG NATION’S BEST
The School of Nursing & Health Studies is celebrating the national recognition of UW’s nursing programs by US News & World Report in its 2020 Best Graduate School rankings.

STATE BUDGET INCLUDES NEW STEM BUILDING
The recent session of the Washington Legislature made a significant investment in the future of the University of Washington Bothell by sending the governor budgets that would add a new science building to campus and start a behavioral health program.

HUSKY HEADLINES
For more news, go to www.uwb.edu/news. Find alumni stories at www.uwb.edu/alumni-news.
TO RAISE MONEY FOR UW BOTHELL STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS, more than 1,000 runners, walkers and other supporters came to campus to participate in the 14th annual UW Bothell Husky 5K, hosted by the UW Bothell Alumni Council. A kick-off to the most fun-filled day of Alumni Weekend each May, the family- and dog-friendly 5K has raised more than $160,000 to date. UW Bothell alumni give back.

As part of the day’s festivities, Stefan Torres (NHS ’14) was awarded the inaugural Alumni of the Year Award by the UW Bothell Alumni Council (middle row left). The new award honors current and ongoing professional achievements and outstanding community service work by UW Bothell alumni. Torres also won the 2018 It Takes a Nurse Video Challenge, a national competition hosted by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and was recognized as one of the UW School of Nursing’s centennial 100 influencers.

About 2,500 alumni, neighbors and friends from all over the Puget Sound region came to Bothell for the fifth annual Bothell Block Party and BrewFest. The largest event during Alumni Weekend, the Block Party features internationally touring musicians and more than 40 breweries, wineries, cider makers and food trucks. UW Bothell alumni know how to celebrate.

NEW UW BOTHELL GRADUATES JOIN ALUMNI COMMUNITY

ON JUNE 16 AT T-MOBILE PARK, UW BOTHELL GRADUATED THE CLASS OF 2019 — yet again the largest class ever at 2,238 undergraduate and graduate students. The annual Graduate Hooding ceremony took place on June 15 on the UW Bothell campus.

Bruce Harrell (top left), Seattle City Council president and former Husky football player, offered this year’s commencement address. The ceremony also recognized Kaheerman Saibire, recipient of the 2019 President’s Medal, and Angelica Mendoza, recipient of the 2019 UW Bothell Chancellor’s Medal (top middle), as well as Neil Low (top right), recipient of the 2019 UW Bothell Distinguished Alumnus Award.
Progress and innovation are not simple or easy. But they often start with a very simple question: What if…?

Add a passion for teaching and learning, a desire to better serve students and the state, and a commitment to doing things right from the start, and you get the inspiration for starting a School of Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM) at UW Bothell.

Established in 2013, the school is now housed in several buildings on campus including the aptly named Discovery Hall. The newest academic hall on campus, Discovery Hall is a symbol of UW Bothell’s approach to STEM education. It is a visible reminder of the ongoing curiosity and collaboration that drive the work of the school’s faculty, students and staff.

Moving from idea to reality

A mixture of wood, metal and concrete, Discovery Hall is illuminated with natural light and offers sweeping views of the campus wetlands and the Cascades. Inside, the landscape is equally powerful: Classrooms and labs are designed with viewing windows that create an aura of openness and transparency.

The $68 million project opened for classes in fall 2014. It accommodates 1,000 students and includes 430 classroom seats, 14 science and engineering labs and a dust-free “clean” room. In 2016, it was granted a LEED Gold rating for its environmental and sustainable features.

The School of STEM’s structure and spaces were also designed to support human interaction. The four academic divisions in the school — Biological Sciences, Computing & Software Systems, Engineering & Mathematics and Physical Sciences — don’t just share space. They share the same educational philosophy that animates UW Bothell as a university: cooperate across disciplinary boundaries, engage with off-campus partners and seek out a more diverse student body and faculty.

This is not how STEM education has traditionally worked in universities.

“The K-12 system has embraced the ‘STEM’ concept, but we’re one of the first higher education institutions to do so,” says Elaine Scott, founding dean. “There are distinct differences between the disciplines, but there are also a lot of commonalities. This model creates an amazing synergy.”

Doing things differently seems to be working. In just over five years, the School of STEM has become UW Bothell’s largest school. Undergraduate and graduate student enrollment in STEM degree programs has almost tripled since the school’s opening.

The School of STEM at UW Bothell recently celebrated its fifth anniversary. How it reached this impressive milestone paves the way for an even more impressive future — for us all.
from just under 550 students in fall 2012 to nearly 1,600 in fall 2018.

Equally impressive, the school began with only a handful of degree programs but within just a few years expanded to more than two dozen options spanning baccalaureate and graduate degrees, minors and certificate programs. Since its inception, the school has hired more than 60 faculty members to meet burgeoning needs.

“Once we opened the doors and provided more options for students, the response was tremendous,” Scott says. “We told students we were going to work hard to expand our offerings, and that’s exactly what we did.”

Drawing on inspiration

From diving the ocean’s depths to landing on Mars, STEM fields have the power to transform the impossible into the possible. The School of STEM not only supports research and teaching but is itself an example of innovation.

Almost impossibly, the school went from basics to blockbuster within five years. This success drew some of its inspiration, fittingly, in a classroom where someone had a big idea and a single sheet of blank paper.

Amira Davis enrolled at UW Bothell in 2007 because she was attracted to the University’s “culture of everyone working toward goals together.” Ultimately, however, she assumed she would transfer elsewhere to complete her education. She was pursuing a science degree, and UW Bothell’s undergraduate options were limited at the time.

But after two years on campus, she could not imagine leaving such a dynamic environment. Davis’ chemistry professor shared her passion for expanding UW Bothell’s offerings and encouraged her to gather student input about the idea.

“Student voices really matter at UW Bothell, and he advised me to start a petition,” Davis recalls. “I was in class and literally ripped a piece of paper out of my notebook, grabbed a pen and classmates started signing it.”

UW Bothell faculty and administration were already working to address the need for more STEM programming, but such grassroots student enthusiasm inspired them to redouble their efforts to reorganize and expand.

The result? Among multiple other new programs launched in the same period, a bachelor’s in Biology was established just in time for Davis to earn her degree in 2011 as part of the program’s first graduating class. By 2012, the faculty’s plans for an entire school devoted to STEM were finalized and the founding dean hired.

UW Bothell could have then continued expanding with a traditional academic model where disciplines and departments are siloed physically and often intellectually. Led by the faculty, the campus chose instead to create a better, next-generation structure that is more accessible, innovative and effective.

“The walls are typically high between disciplines, often to the point of not fully understanding how one area influences the other,” Scott says. “We wanted low walls so everyone could talk and collaborate. So we proceeded to build out based on our desire to promote cross-disciplinary work.

“And that meant removing roadblocks from the philosophical to logistical.”

Connecting the curriculum

Creating a new kind of school just for STEM research and education required the faculty and administration to invest and act in new ways. Courses, degree programs, certificates and other learning opportunities were rethought with new objectives and broader input.

“We have the basic degrees such as biology, chemistry, engineering, math and computer science,” says Scott. “We just needed more opportunities to work together.”

Developing an interrelated curriculum and co-curricular activities, she explains, provides students a holistic education that is more relevant to real-world problems and solutions.

“As we move through adding programs and degrees, part of the process is always asking what approach best educates students and prepares them for entering the modern job market,” says Shima Abadi, an assistant professor and chair of the curriculum committee in the Division of Engineering & Mathematics.

Before the School of STEM was established, UW Bothell offered four baccalaureate degrees in STEM fields: Applied Computing, Computing & Software Systems, Biology and Electrical
The university has experienced rapid growth and maintained high standards and a clear student-focused identity. That makes the School of STEM worthy of future investment, whether it’s in the form of volunteer hours, more degree programs or additional funding.”

ERIK BASERMAN, STEM ADVISORY BOARD CHAIR

Engineering. The school also offered a master’s degree in Computing & Software Systems. With the launch of the school, educational pathways for students rapidly expanded, and the curriculum now includes 17 bachelor’s and master’s degrees, eight minors and two graduate certificates.

While many degrees are in traditional fields, the School of STEM’s cross-disciplinary approach also means many programs incorporate multiple disciplines within the school and within other schools on campus. The Interactive Media Design program and Neuroscience minor, for example, both span the School of STEM and the School of Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences (IAS).

“Our departments are physically close, which leads to collaborations,” says Abadi. “I once had a cup of coffee with a biology colleague that led to a brainstorming session and ultimately a cross-disciplinary project that landed on the front page of The Seattle Times!”

Abadi is currently working to launch an ocean engineering program that would combine mechanical engineering and ocean sciences.

Connecting courses across academic disciplines — and to real-world needs — is a hallmark of the School of STEM. Abadi, for example, partners with community and industry experts who offer the students in her classes opportunities for research, capstones and internships.

Starting in fall 2019, the STEM curriculum will also include a major in Earth System Science (a collaboration between the Physical Sciences Division in STEM and the Environmental Science program in IAS) and an Actuarial Sciences minor (a collaboration between the Engineering & Mathematics Division in STEM and the School of Business). Next up: a program in data science that will span STEM, IAS, Business and the School of Nursing & Health Studies.

Breaking down walls

In March 2019, a bus full of women STEM students traveled to downtown Seattle to celebrate International Women’s Day. Avanade, a technology consulting company that partners with UW Bothell on internship and scholarship programs, hosted an event with lectures, question-and-answer sessions and an abundance of inspiration and encouragement.

Everyone was abuzz with excitement. “One of my colleagues commented that it was the best day she’d ever had, being able to watch how much it meant to the students,” Scott recalls.

A guiding principle for the School of STEM is reaching beyond classroom walls to create a culture of community engagement. This is accomplished through individual efforts, such as Abadi’s classes, as well institutional outreach.

One critical bridge between campus and community is the School of STEM Advisory Board. Members include technology and health care executives, educators and a former astronaut. These experts advise the school regarding industry needs and educational program development with a particular focus on school-to-career transitions.

“There is a huge demand in the Puget Sound region for people trained in technical fields, and UW Bothell is delivering,” says Erik Baserman, board chair.

Well educated and trained graduates contribute to the regional economy and healthy communities, he notes.

“The School of STEM serves specific needs in our area, and that’s why community members are so willing to answer the call to help,” Baserman says. “These things only happen when everybody gets behind them.”

Baserman has worked for companies such as IBM, Sonicare and MarqMetrix, which produces optic products. He is an enthusiastic advocate for taking a cross-disciplinary approach to education because it better prepares students for “real-world work which requires teamwork and is multi-functional by nature.”

According to state projections, Washington needs more than 6,000 additional workers with STEM degrees each year between 2020 and 2025 to meet workforce demand.

Not surprisingly, more than 40% of incoming first-year students to UW Bothell express an interest in pursuing a STEM degree.

“It’s a tremendous opportunity,” Scott says. “Most of our graduates stay in the local community and are qualified to
find work in the region’s many industries ranging from technology to life sciences, aerospace and more.”

Opening the doors

The culture of interaction and collaboration in the School of STEM also speaks to the school’s dedication to diversity, equity and inclusion. The doors are open to everyone.

In the 2017-18 academic year, for example, 38% of STEM’s undergraduate students will be the first in their families to earn a four-year degree. Like the rest of campus, the school also boasts a diverse student population, with almost half of all students coming from underserved or underrepresented populations. The school is also making strides in attracting female students. Women now represent 31% of UW Bothell’s STEM students, which is higher than the national average.

“The University is doing a great job admitting a student body that reflects society. Historically, that hasn’t been easy to do in STEM — let alone retain and graduate a diverse class,” Baserman notes.

Part of this success is attributable to hiring an equally diverse faculty. About 40% of STEM faculty are women, for example. Abadi understands firsthand the importance of having fellow classmates and role models with whom to identify. Her own college experience was being only one of 14 female engineering students in a class of 120.

“One reason I chose this position is because the University supports having a diverse faculty,” Abadi says. “I get to be the mentor and role model that I wanted when I was a student.”

Current student Jasmine Coleman transferred to UW Bothell from another four-year university. She struggled with her studies in the past due to experiences that made her reluctant to ask questions or pursue help during office hours. She reached the point of preferring a lower grade to being made to feel inadequate.

“There are a lot of stereotypes floating around about people’s capabilities and that sometimes holds you back,” Coleman shares. “But UW Bothell includes minorities and people who normally don’t feel welcome.

“These faculty and staff actively reach out and help students believe in themselves,” she says.

The school’s curriculum also made a difference in her educational plans, Coleman reports.

She was interested in studying physics but increasingly wanted to pursue a field with more immediate applications in industry. Once in the school, she was introduced to the field of computer science and is now pursuing a major in Mathematics and a minor in Computer Science & Software Engineering.

“An interdisciplinary education introduced me to other options,” she says, “and I’m a more well-rounded student because of it.”

Wide-open future

Enrollment at UW Bothell’s School of STEM continues to exceed expectations, and the school remains focused on adding courses, expanding partnerships and increasing its diversity.

Student and workforce demand show no signs of slowing, says Scott. “The school continues building on its own success to the point that we’re now full again and ready to grow.”

Adds Baserman: “The University has experienced rapid growth and maintained high standards and a clear student-focused identity. That makes the School of STEM worthy of future investment, whether it’s in the form of volunteer hours, more degree programs or additional funding.”

Just this spring, in fact, the Washington Legislature passed a budget that provides funding for the construction of another STEM building to be used by UW Bothell and campus partner Cascadia College. It will help both institutions serve more students to help address the state’s workforce needs.

But in the end, statistics and square footage alone cannot quantify the School of STEM’s success. What propels it into the future is something beyond measure.

“My goal is to make a positive impact on the world,” Coleman says. “I finally feel like my dreams are coming true.”
Joe Torres was 10 years into an impressive international career when he arrived on the UW Bothell campus as a graduate student. His work at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation had him crisscrossing the globe to oversee health, research and sanitation projects spanning India, Peru, Kenya, China and more. In Thailand, he managed meetings between the royal princess and a high-level group of international scientists. In a previous job, he supervised community advisory groups running HIV vaccine trials in the Caribbean, Peru and Brazil.

Conversant (or better) in four languages and juggling projects on five continents, there was one thing the California-born go-getter hadn’t yet done: Although he...
shouldered hefty responsibilities at work, Torres hadn’t formally stepped into senior management roles.

“Great bosses helped me understand where I wanted to go,” he says of the mentors who opened doors for him into the international arena. “I was so lucky to have had great bosses and wanted to learn how to do that for other people in turn.”

School work as real work

Ten years after earning his bachelor’s in liberal arts (he originally intended to teach English as a Second Language), Torres began UW Bothell’s MBA in Leadership program.

Drawn by the program’s small class size and cohort model, Torres was eager to learn how to be a better manager, mentor and coach. But he also worried about surviving the course load while working an intense, full-time job.

Fortunately, Torres’ fears were allayed as he realized, in course after course, that the MBA program would transform his work life into a hands-on learning lab.

“In every class,” he says, “I had an ‘aha’ moment: ‘I’m taking this and using it at work tomorrow.’”

The courses in leadership proved especially critical, showing him how to help people on his staff grow into their full potential. To this day, Torres says, he applies the lessons he learned in an organizational development class taught by Sophie Leroy, associate professor in the School of Business.

The members of his cohort proved to be invaluable teachers, too.

“For people like me without a business undergrad degree, we learned just as much from each other as we did from the program,” says Torres, noting that feedback from fellow students still shapes his post-MBA experience.

The connections and sources of expertise he developed will last a lifetime, he adds.

Ready for the challenge

After earning his Leadership MBA in 2015, Torres flourished in his new management role at the Gates foundation, leading a team of four and overseeing more than $100 million worth of investments in global programs. He then went on to be selected for a prestigious, two-year appointment as director of General Operations & Administration at Grand Challenges Canada, a nonprofit that funds innovations spanning 95 countries.

Torres credits UW Bothell for helping him to prepare for these challenges.

“To say my MBA experience was valuable would be an understatement,” he says. “It’s one of the main reasons why I was considered for this international assignment and why I have been able to move into a senior leadership role at this Canadian NGO.”

Torres is especially excited about launching a program that will deliver humanitarian assistance in conflict settings such as Syria, Yemen and the Democratic Republic of Congo. The project harnesses the voices of the most affected people who inform everything from program design to implementation and the review process.

And process is where Torres shines. In a field that’s often science- and technology-driven, he brings much-needed expertise in strategy, execution and organizational excellence.

“It’s something that’s rare, frankly,” Torres observes. “Coming in as a generalist with development experience and helping them achieve their goals has been really rewarding.”

A strong foundation

For current students drawn to an international career, Torres advises defining your interests and cultivating strong relationships with mentors and managers.

Perhaps even more importantly, he says, focus on learning as a solid base from which to expand over time and with new experiences.

Finally, he says, education is a privilege you should not take for granted.

“It allows you the space and creativity to think about what you want to do to flourish and grow — and not what you have to do to survive,” he says. “Take a moment to appreciate that.”
Laura Halpin speaks English with a lilting, hard-to-place accent. It’s not thick enough to be an Irish brogue, not nasal enough to be North American. Where, you can’t help wondering, is this woman from?

The answer puts her somewhere in the middle. The daughter of Irish emigrants who moved to the United States, Halpin shuttled between the two countries throughout her childhood.

Now a Londoner, she’s found a professional home in Europe’s halls of power, hammering out social policy at the highest levels.

Put her in a tough negotiating spot, she laughs, and “that’s when the American accent comes out.”

But Halpin adeptly manages those tough spots well, drawing in part on the analytical and communications skills she began building as a UW Bothell student.

Gaining critical perspective

Halpin arrived at the UW Bothell campus in its early days, her sights already set on an international career. Her entrance was delayed by struggles with Type 1 diabetes, but “I knew as soon as I attended my first course that UW Bothell was the right choice.”

That first class was “Contemporary Britain,” taught by the late Jane Decker, one of the founding faculty of UW Bothell. With its comprehensive, connect-the-dots approach, the course gave Halpin a taste of things to come in her Liberal Studies program.

“No matter which courses I took,” she recalls, “we were always discussing across disciplines ways in which to achieve social justice and effect ethical change.”

“I’ve built it in to everything I do to this day,” she says.

She went on to earn a master’s degree in Public Administration from the UW’s Evans School of Public Policy & Governance in Seattle. In England, she studied with the leading lights of public policy analysis and received a Ph.D. from the University of Sussex.

“Had I not had that fantastic education at UW Bothell, with its emphasis on critical thinking, research and speaking,” Halpin says, “I would never have been admitted to these prestigious institutions.”

Steeped in complexity, the work was some of the most rewarding of her career. She knew that her input would directly affect the lives of millions of citizens.

Creating social change

Guided by a passion to make positive change in people’s lives, Halpin’s career has taken her from the halls of Westminster to the écoles of France and beyond.

It also brought her back to UW Bothell in 2002 to serve four years as a visiting scholar. Currently an independent lecturer and development consultant, she’s turned her energies to health care policy, “rocking the boat” to prompt reforms that will aid other people afflicted with Type 1 diabetes.

Whether writing geopolitical analysis or documenting the real-life fallout of health care policy, Halpin says she can trace everything in her career back to her undergraduate years at UW Bothell.

“Any student who chooses to go there is very, very lucky,” she says. “They’ve gotten themselves into an absolutely brilliant curriculum with a faculty that’s second to none.”
AN UNEXPECTED TRAJECTORY

BRICE HAMACK ’09, B.A. in Business Finance

Plenty of people claim that college changed their lives. But how many can honestly say that a flying samosa altered their destiny, leading to an international career, marriage and a change of religion?

Meet Brice Hamack, living proof that a savory pastry — and the willingness to follow where it leads — can open up new worlds.

A self-described “introverted, antisocial and isolated” 24-year-old, Hamack arrived at UW Bothell with a specific career goal in mind: a number-crunching job in a back office where he could avoid other people. He wasn’t counting on the mentors who would recognize his potential and help him rocket past that planned future.

New cultural horizons

Hamack’s trajectory shifted one afternoon as he wandered around a series of outdoor tables on campus. It was Club Day, and every organization from the debate society to the martial arts group was recruiting new members.

Hamack wasn’t looking for connections. He was scanning for free food. “Hey, Detroit!” a voice rang out. Hamack was wearing a Detroit Tigers baseball cap. He looked up. A samosa sailed through the air and into his hands.

Curious, he traced it to its source: Colleen Quinn, the UW staffer in charge of the campus events board. Impressed with what she knew of Hamack’s experience organizing car shows, Quinn convinced him to volunteer for the board.

From there, Hamack’s life expanded in unpredictable ways. He started to emerge from his shell, bonding with other volunteers and the students who attended their events. They connected at hip hop concerts and quiz nights. Laughed over cartoons at breakfast. Danced to a rock band playing atop the parking garage.

Upon meeting one Muslim woman in the group — and sharing meals with her and her warm, welcoming family — Hamack also encountered a new religious worldview. “I’ve really been missing out,” he remembers thinking at the time. “I’ve only learned about a very small portion of the world. I really need to push myself.”

He did. And eventually, he would become a practicing Muslim himself.

A broader view

The academic community prompted another dramatic shift in Hamack’s outlook. “I met wonderful mentors at UW Bothell who showed me how wide I could spread my wings if I really wanted,” he says.

He majored in business finance, but learning about spreadsheets and accounting soon wasn’t enough to satisfy him. When Hamack broadened his focus to include interdisciplinary studies as well, the lightbulbs started going off. He discovered a burgeoning passion for international political economies, social studies and globalization.

Inspired, Hamack set a new goal to earn a law degree, but success was far from certain. Before finding his footing at UW Bothell, he had failed out of community college. Depressed and struggling in those days, his weight had risen to 400 pounds. Even with his successes at UW Bothell, his self-confidence was still sometimes shaky.

Then his first acceptance letter from a law school arrived. “It was almost an out-of-body experience,” Hamack recalls. “I had to leave the office where I was working and take a walk around downtown Seattle.”

A dozen other acceptance letters followed. A lifelong Seattle-area resident, Hamack finally chose Santa Clara University in California.

“My UW Bothell experience gave me the confidence and desire to move beyond the Seattle bubble and take a big leap to go off to law school somewhere else,” he says.

Life outside class

After graduating law school, Hamack served for two years as a lawyer and civil rights coordinator for Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) California. He handled issues ranging from religious freedom and race equity to national security, open government, police practices, corrections and immigration.

In 2016, he returned to Australia — he went on a study abroad trip there as a student — to work for Legal Aid ACT in Canberra. After serving as client services officer and grants officer, he began a position in May 2018 as supervising solicitor with its Youth Law Center.

Still committed to social justice issues, he now juggles a host of cases, from employment law to human rights, criminal defense to family violence. He also supervises 20 students each semester who serve as paralegals and lawyers.

When they ask about pursuing an international career, Hamack points them to courses in globalization, politics and culture. He urges exploration outside the classroom.

“People out there see the world in different ways than you,” he says. “Take your studies outside the textbook. Hear language, music — immerse yourself.”
STUDY ABROAD ON THE RISE

THE NUMBER OF UW BOTHELL STUDENTS GOING ABROAD AS PART OF THEIR EDUCATION has been growing steadily since the creation of the Global Initiatives office on campus in 2012. This increase is the direct result of several key strategies:

- partner with faculty and advisers to create programs for specific majors;
- provide peer advising in the Student Success Center;
- offer information sessions at all incoming student orientations, featuring study abroad ambassadors; and
- target scholarship funding (more than $55,000 annually).

The Global Initiatives team is especially proud that study abroad participants at UW Bothell mirror the diversity of the general student population — including first-generation students and those with higher financial need, as evidenced by federal Pell grant eligibility.

STUDY ABROAD TRIVIA

Question: Which of these places was not a top destination for UW Bothell study abroad students in 2017-18?

a) France  
b) Guatemala  
c) India  
d) Spain  
e) United Kingdom

Answer: United Kingdom

2017-2018 TOP DESTINATION COUNTRIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th># students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guatemala</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>35</td>
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</table>

PERCENTAGE OF ALL UNDERGRADUATES WHO STUDY ABROAD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACADEMIC YEAR</th>
<th>UW BOTHELL</th>
<th>NATIONWIDE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011-12</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>9.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012-13</td>
<td>6.8</td>
<td>9.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013-14</td>
<td>8.6</td>
<td>9.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014-15</td>
<td>8.5</td>
<td>10.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-16</td>
<td>9.2</td>
<td>10.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016-17</td>
<td>7.9</td>
<td>10.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017-18</td>
<td>9.4</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* The study abroad participation rate is a ratio of undergraduate study abroad participants to bachelor’s degrees conferred.
* National data is collected and published by IIE Open Doors.

FIRST-GENERATION STUDENTS TRAVEL THE WORLD

During the 2017-18 academic year, 43.2% of all undergraduates who studied abroad identified as the first in their family to be pursuing a four-year college degree.

The percentage of first-gen students at UW Bothell as a whole is 43.9%.

PELL-ELIGIBLE STUDENTS STUDY ABROAD, TOO

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<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011-12</td>
<td>32.8</td>
<td>32.7</td>
<td>30.8</td>
<td>38.8</td>
<td>30.8</td>
<td>37.9</td>
<td>30.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012-13</td>
<td>38.8</td>
<td>38.4</td>
<td>37.9</td>
<td>42.1</td>
<td>29.1</td>
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<td>2013-14</td>
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<td>29.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015-16</td>
<td>32.8</td>
<td>32.7</td>
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<td>38.8</td>
<td>30.8</td>
<td>37.9</td>
<td>30.3</td>
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The inaugural Husky Giving Day on April 4 demonstrated the growing strength of UW Bothell’s philanthropic community. During this one-day event, alumni as well as faculty, staff, students and friends around the world were encouraged to make gifts of any size. Participation was our main goal.

Across the three UW campuses, UW Bothell ranked sixth among all campuses, schools and centers for the number of individual gifts. Thanks to our generous donors, we also raised the second highest amount!

Michelle Gamboa (STEM ’05) made the largest gift of the day, announcing a $100,000 endowment named in honor of her father. This is UW Bothell’s first-ever endowment for faculty and will support their work in the School of Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics.

The second annual I ❤️ UW Bothell Scholarship Luncheon was a resounding success — despite the February snowstorms. Approximately, 200 donors pledged their support either at the luncheon or from the warmth and safety of their homes.

Together, we surpassed our $350,000 fundraising goal to help ensure that UW Bothell students can stay in school even when they are faced with unexpected financial hardships.

With less than one year remaining in the University of Washington’s $5 billion Be Boundless campaign, UW Bothell is closing in on our $35 million goal.

More than $33 million has been committed so far, an astonishing 10-fold increase over the $3 million that was raised in the last fundraising campaign.

On and off campus, we feel campaign momentum building — and we see the impact it is making. This past year was the third-highest fundraising year in the history of the Bothell campus, with alumni, faculty, students, staff and friends donating more than $5 million for scholarships, research and other programs.

First-generation students make up approximately half of the student body at UW Bothell, and we are committed to providing these students with the resources and support that lead to a successful transition into college life.

We are thrilled to announce that the Coca-Cola Foundation has awarded a third $100,000 grant to provide scholarship support for another cohort of Coca-Cola First Generation Scholars — from their first year through graduation.

More than 5,000 donors have made gifts to UW Bothell during the UW’s Be Boundless fundraising campaign. Less than 12 months remain in our Campaign for UW Bothell. Make your gift today by going to uwb.edu/give.
Aimee Desrochers (SNHS ’14) is the 2019 recipient of the School of Nursing & Health Studies’ Outstanding Alumni Award.

Annie Bruck (BSN ’95, MN ’98) received the 2019 Marguerite Cobb Public Health/Community Health Nurse Award from the Washington State Nurses Association.

Darren Page (MN ’11) accepted a position as an infection preventionist at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston.

Mina Hooshangi (IAS ’11) is now a strategy and integration leader at Boeing.

Dhwani Vekaria (IMD ’17) works with UW Medicine’s Clinical Trials Office as a student research analyst and UX designer. She is also an incoming intern at Cambia Health Solutions Inc.

All four of these alumni were inducted into the School of Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences’ Alumni Hall of Excellence this spring: Megan Dunn (MAPS ’13), Talena Lachelle Queen (MFA ’14), Jim Reed (IAS ’95) and Tadashi Shiga (IAS ’96).

David Gantz (IAS ’10) has his own practice, Gantz Law, specializing in real estate and property law.

Samantha Penjaraenwatana (IAS ’15) is graduate coordinator for First-Generation College Student Initiatives at Seattle University.

Rabeka Randall (IAS ’10) is an integrated scheduling specialist at Boeing.

Colton Lindeolof (IAS ’09) received his Master of Education from Washington State University Vancouver.

Emily Anderson (IAS ’09) and Michael Tufts (STEM ’21) welcomed Noah, their son — and future UW Bothell student — this February.

Rebecca Cavanaugh (BSN ’98), health and nursing services supervisor for the Northshore School District, received the School Nurse Administrator of the Year award from the School Nurse Organization of Washington.

Melanie Querimit (M.Ed. ’16) and Chris Singson (IAS ’13) were married on a beach in Hawaii.

Byron Dill (IAS ’10) opened The Dill Agency, an Allstate agency in Woodinville, Washington.

New job, honor or award, or other milestone in your life? Send your big news to Class Notes at uwbalumn@uw.edu.
FACES in PLACES

1. Jason Hampton (IAS ‘14) and his wife, Kelly Helm Hampton, celebrating the birthday of their son, Chance, at Whistler Mountain Bike Park in Whistler, Canada

2. Erle Hunter (IAS ‘12) and Christopher McRae (IAS ‘12) near the Washington Monument in Washington, D.C.

3. Nicole David (IAS ’13, M.Ed. ’18) vacationing in San Diego

4. Christopher DuBois (STEM ’16) and Sara Crauer at Music City in Nashville, Tennessee

5. Grace Uribe Martinez (IAS ’04) running the Mother’s Day Half Marathon in Kirkland, Washington

6. Eric Shen (IAS ’13) at Himeji Castle in Japan

7. Salina Parrott (BUS ’06) and Chris Parrott (BUS ’10) atop the Great Wall of China

8. Ray Corona (IAS ’13) at Westlake Park in Seattle

9. Kevin Hannigan (BUS ’18) near Kylemore Abbey in Connemara, Ireland

Been somewhere lately and want to see yourself in our Faces in Places section? Email your high-res photo to Faces in Places at uwbalumn@uw.edu.
FLAGS in PLACES

1. Mary Howisey (IAS ’02) with UW Seattle alumna Virginia Agostinelli at the ancient theater in Taormina, Sicily
2. Joren Clowers (IAS ’17), Mina Hooshangi (IAS ’11), Marjan Atashkhayer Didra (IAS ’18, MAPS ’19), Eleanor Wort (STEM ’15) and Nate Blanchard (IAS ’17, MAPS ’18) proudly representing UW Bothell in Olympia, Washington
3. Marie Blakey, UW Bothell staff, at Burning Man 2018 in Black Rock City, Nevada
5. David Hernandez (IAS ’03) at the PAC 12 rowing championship in Sacramento, California
6. Tammie Bard (STEM ’18) in front of the Chiang Kai-shek Memorial in Taiwan
7. Leslie Traylor (IAS ’04) at the Outer Banks, North Carolina

HAVE TRAVEL PLANS?

Get a FREE UW Bothell flag, send us a photo with it, and you might see yourself in the next edition of Flags in Places. Email your flag request to uwbalumn@uw.edu, and we’ll send you one right away. Don’t forget to post on social, too! #UWBPROUD
Q: Describe your UW Bothell experience in one word.
A: Personal.

Q: Why did you choose UW Bothell?
A: It offered the best of both worlds: a well-known UW degree and a personalized experience. I knew the professors and staff on a first-name basis. UW Bothell was intimate and allowed me to grow in ways I couldn't have in a bigger school.

Q: Who was your favorite professor at UW Bothell?
A: David Nixon. In his class on religion and philosophy, he had a way of presenting material and encouraging discussion that changed the way I think in general. We were assigned to write an essay: “What is the purpose of life?” To have to sit down and really reflect and come to your own answer — and get a grade on it — was a really interesting approach. It was one of the most relevant courses I've ever taken.

Q: What experience at UW Bothell had the greatest impact on you?
A: I got to grow my leadership skills working in the admissions office. I led tours all four years and eventually became an admissions adviser, recruiting at local high schools and weighing in on the admissions process. I fell in love with the admissions team when I applied so to become a part of it was very exciting.

Q: How has what you learned while at UW Bothell shaped your life and career since graduation?
A: The intimate environment allows you to feel confident and know that your voice matters. I was never shy to raise my hand at UW Bothell. You can really engage in conversations and get the most out of them. That's something I've carried with me — actively vocalizing my opinion at my job, asking questions. I'm not intimidated. UW Bothell really encouraged that behavior.

Q: How did UW Bothell help you find a career that matched your talents and interests?
A: The interdisciplinary approach helped a lot. I came into college with an open mind. I wanted a blank slate, to take interesting courses and see where that would take me. The way the curriculum is designed to be exploratory in nature allows you to figure it out.

Q: What is your most unexpected career highlight to date?
A: I started in tech at Amazon, and then I pivoted into advertising. I didn't think I'd be living in New York and working at an ad agency. But UW Bothell encourages taking it one step at a time and figuring out where you want to go from there.

Q: What is the most rewarding part of your work now?
A: Learning about the way the world works. Finding the right person in the right moment with the right message to solve an issue.

Q: What career advice do you have for other alumni — especially recent grads?
A: Go with what interests you, not what you think will bring in the most money. Because if you do what's interesting, you will be successful and the money will come.

Q: What advice do you have for the students who will begin classes this fall?
A: Go all in! Take advantage of all the activities outside the classroom. Engage in conversations in the classroom. Be very present and engaged with whatever you're participating in. That's how you'll get the most of it.
HERE ARE SOME UPCOMING EVENTS WE HAVE PLANNED for UW Bothell alumni.
Stay up to date on all alumni activities by visiting [www.uwb.edu/alumni/events](http://www.uwb.edu/alumni/events).
You can also sign up for our alumni newsletter by emailing uwbalumn@uw.edu.

**ALUMNI WINE CLUB**

Milbrandt Vineyards offers an exclusive UW Bothell alumni wine club, featuring two membership levels: purple and gold. Both memberships include biannual shipments, free tastings, discounted bottle purchases and venue rentals, and more.

For details, visit [www.uwb.edu/alumni/alumni-wine-club](http://www.uwb.edu/alumni/alumni-wine-club).

**PUB NIGHT TALKS**

UW Bothell partners with McMenamins Anderson School to present Pub Night Talks, a monthly speaker series with experts from UW Bothell and the local community.

Talks are held in Haynes’ Hall the last Tuesday evening of each month at McMenamins Anderson School in downtown Bothell. The talks begin at 7 p.m. and are followed by Q&A. Pub Night Talks are free and open to the public. All ages welcome!

Learn more: [uwb.edu/advancement/speakers](http://uwb.edu/advancement/speakers).

- **Night with the Mariners** | July 20
- **Wine Tasting in Leavenworth: Road Trip!** | July 27
- **Night with the Seattle Storm** | August 2
- **Husky Football Argosy Sailgate – UW vs. Hawaii** | September 14
- **School of Business UnGala Dinner and Auction** | September 19
- **UW Bothell in the Bay Area** | October 5
- **UW Bothell in Arizona** | October 12
- **W Day** | October 18
- **UW Bothell Alumni Tailgate** (E1 Lot) | October 19
- **Alumni Road Trip to Corvallis** | November 8