IT’S ALL ABOUT OPPORTUNITY.

First generation students excel with the support of scholarships.
DEAR ALUMNI, FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS,

By providing students with every opportunity to excel – academically, personally and professionally – UW Bothell makes a lifelong impact.

As our alumni have come back to campus for fall homecoming activities, I’ve had a chance to hear first-hand that many believed one of the greatest contributors to their success at UW Bothell was scholarship support. Unfortunately, not all of our students and alumni were able to receive the same investment, because we simply didn’t have enough scholarships. As a college graduate who relied on the generosity of others to finance my own education through scholarships, I believe we can and must do better.

Here’s where you come in. Today, six out of 10 students who come to UW Bothell qualify for financial aid, but we are unable to provide all of them with enough support. This financial barrier can put students in jeopardy of “stopping out” of college because they simply can’t afford to go on. You have an opportunity to help these students experience an uninterrupted college education like no other and go on to graduate and make real change in the world.

In this issue, you will read the stories of several students and alumni who are destined for success thanks to the scholarship support of generous donors like you.

I am committed to building a pool of financial support to ensure that one day our campus has the robust scholarship resources that allow us to welcome more qualified students who can excel because others cared. Your support will allow us to offer them that opportunity.

Wolf Yeigh, Chancellor
LONG BEFORE STUDENTS EVER SET foot on campus, UW Bothell is already paving their path to success.

Our commitment begins when kids are still in middle and high school. In partnership with school districts, we guide students toward college preparatory courses and bolster their confidence.

For applicants to UW Bothell who may have borderline GPAs or SAT scores, we dig deeper to determine if they might have the resilience and drive to succeed. Then, in the summer before they start classes, we provide an academic transition program where they learn success strategies, including time management, study habits and organizational skills.

“We actively seek out students who show that they have overcome adversity and have grown from their experiences rather than giving up,” explains Susan Jeffords, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs. “They not only succeed but often go on to become some of our top students.”

The “how to be a successful college student” course got so much buzz that it has now become a popular elective open to any first year student.

The required Discovery Core program for first year students introduces them to UW Bothell’s cross-disciplinary approach to education, perhaps melding art with biology or English with math to show the real-world interconnectedness of subjects and disciplines.

Academic advisors work with students to help them plan for the careers they want after graduation. By participating in a new national initiative, the Student Success Collaborative, we will have access to data that allows us to better predict how students might fare in careers based on their academic performance in college.

“If they’re not doing well, we can provide them with support or suggest other careers that might better suit their skills and interests,” Jeffords says.

A broad array of out-of-class opportunities – like student government and internships – enable students to learn from each other and build leadership skills that contribute to their success.

“UW Bothell does more than other universities might do because it’s part of our DNA,” Jeffords concludes. “We are deeply invested in every student’s ability to excel.”

SUSAN JEFFORDS
VICE CHANCELLOR FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
AFTER YEARS OF PAINSTAKING RESEARCH, Casey Mann and Jennifer McLoud-Mann were beginning to wonder if they were looking for something that just didn’t exist.

It had been three decades since the last discovery of a five-sided figure that could interlock with identically shaped pentagons infinitely in every direction without leaving any gaps, something that mathematicians call “tiling the plane.”

Not long after joining UW Bothell’s faculty two years ago, the associate mathematics professors invited one of their undergraduate students to join them in their search for a tile-planing pentagon that would become the 15th type ever discovered – if only they could find it.

They started by asking David Von Derau, a math major and professional software developer, if he could write a program to compute various aspects of an algorithm they’d developed. He embraced the challenge, writing line after complex line of code.

They spent more than a year exchanging prototypes, meticulously sifting through each iteration. Every step of the way, they learned from each other’s work. One day, Jennifer spotted something new as she was reviewing data that David’s program cranked out.

Once they made a computerized picture of it and verified that the program hadn’t done anything wrong, they reached out to other experts in the field, asking them to confirm their findings.

A couple days later, they made math history and became the first mathematicians since 1985 to discover a new type of tile-planing pentagon. Their discovery electrified the math world and made news headlines across the globe.

Casey and Jennifer, who were married 22 years ago, are often asked about what real-world problems their pentagon might help solve someday. They patiently discuss potential applications in fields such as structural design and biochemistry.

But that’s not what makes their eyes light up. What excites them most is the idea that this discovery shows the world that mathematics is not some boring set of rules that’s already figured out. It’s a dynamic field of study with fascinating frontiers that are calling out to be explored – not just by high-level graduate students and tenure-track faculty but by undergraduates, too.

“Teaching and researching in an environment where faculty feel supported and encouraged to engage with undergraduate students in such meaningful ways is a very powerful thing,” Jennifer says.

It was a challenge at times to juggle a leading-edge research project with a full course load and a full-time job as a software engineer, says David, who graduated in June with a major in math and a minor in computer software systems. But in the end, he said that making such an historic discovery was beyond fulfilling.

By Liz Murtaugh Gillespie

TWO PROFESSORS AND AN UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCHER TEAM UP TO DISCOVER A PENTAGON LIKE NO OTHER

MAKING MATH HISTORY

TILING THE PLANETRANSLATION IN UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON BOTHELL
“Teaching and researching in an environment where faculty feel supported and encouraged to engage with undergraduate students in such meaningful ways is a very powerful thing.”

JENNIFER MCLOUD-MANN, UW BOTHELL ASSOCIATE MATHEMATICS PROFESSOR
A HEALTH CARE PARTNERSHIP REAPS BENEFITS FOR STUDENTS, SYSTEMS AND COMMUNITIES

WHEN THE PROVIDENCE INSTITUTE FOR A HEALTHIER COMMUNITY launched its trailblazing initiative to help create healthier lives for people in Snohomish County, leaders turned to a trusted collaborator in their own backyard: UW Bothell.

The result was the perfect blend of teaching, learning, research, partnership and impact.

With a goal of truly listening to people in underserved communities to first understand how they envisioned health and wellness and then to design ways to help them realize their vision, the Institute engaged the School of Nursing and Health Studies in a community-based, participatory research project. Another trusted partner, Lutheran Community Services, also played a major role.

Professors Cheryl Cooke, Jody Early and Vicky Breckwich Vásquez jumped at the opportunity to involve their students in the initiative. They conducted person-on-the-street and one-to-one interviews with community members; designed, organized and implemented focus groups in both English and Spanish; observed neighborhoods from their cars in a “windshield survey”; analyzed data;
produced a video; and presented their process and findings at a community health summit.  
“It was a humbling experience,” said Charlotte Jordan, who earned a bachelor of science in nursing in June and now teaches nursing at Whatcom Community College. “People spoke to us intimately about their lives, beliefs, families and tragedies they’d come across. I learned so much about the resilience that people have.

“It emphasized the importance of having the community involved in discussions around their health. We can have misconceptions without even knowing it,” she added.

The professors were as excited about the learning opportunities as their students were.

“It was really a work team, not a class project, and it was unlike any class they’d taken,” Vicky said. “UW Bothell’s flexibility allows us to find the best opportunities for students to learn and to use students’ existing skills, grow their strengths and challenge them to learn new skills. We were able to connect to students’ real and true passions.”

Young college students of color, most from underprivileged communities, comprised one focus group. Vicky said it was an eye-opening experience for many of her students.

“UW Bothell students recognized the incredible privilege they have in accessing health care and living in a safe environment. They didn’t realize it would teach them much more than they contributed,” she said.

Jody noted that projects like these have a lasting impact on students after they graduate and as they evolve in their careers.

“We want to educate health leaders and change makers,” she said. “We have a dynamic and ever-changing health care system. It’s important for students to understand all the elements of working with different populations and health care organizations, along with cultural humility, critical thinking and so much more.”

Even though the research is not yet complete, there were already several “ah-ha moments.”

“Snohomish County is very diverse and perspectives and life situations were much different depending where people lived,” Jody explained. “A theme that resonated over and over was a lack of inclusion and cultural understanding which impacts health and health equity.”

For some people, simply living in a safe environment or being able to care for their grandchildren constituted their definition of health and wellness. When asked who they relied on for information on how to stay healthy, people frequently mentioned a strong female figure in their lives. The researchers were also impressed with how resourceful people were in searching out solutions to their health issues.

The professors praised Providence for its forward-thinking approach to listening to the community, self-assessing and sharing what they learn with other institutions. The Institute will use the UW Bothell research to continue and strengthen its work. To learn more about the Institute, go to www.pihcsnohomish.org.
OPPORTUNITY

By Teresa Moore and Liz Murtaugh Gillespie

HORACIO RODRIGUEZ
HEATHER FELIX
SCHOLARSHIPS MAKE A REMARKABLE DIFFERENCE – NOT JUST TODAY, BUT FOR GENERATIONS

IT’S THE GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING.

SCHOLARSHIPS – whether funded by the government, foundations, alumni, families or individuals – open the door to opportunity for many students at UW Bothell. By making the dream of a college education a reality, scholarships can change more than just a single student’s life. They can inspire generations.

‘THEY LOOK UP TO THEIR BIG BROTHER. I WANT TO HELP THEM GET AN EDUCATION, TOO.’

It was a long road from the streets of Yakima to the halls of the state capitol for Horacio Rodriguez. The UW Bothell sophomore took his first trip to visit with legislators last year. Today, he’s serving as the voice of students among lawmakers in his second year as a student government leader. And while the distance from his hometown to Bothell and Olympia may seem relatively short as the crow flies, his journey wasn’t easy.

Horacio’s father came to the United States from Mexico at the age of 12. His mother was born in Yakima. The couple met in middle school and had Horacio when they were just teenagers.

Finances were tight, and Horacio lived with his grandparents for a while. Slowly, his determined parents made a life for their family, which grew to also include three daughters. But they lived under immense stress in a rough part of town.
"In middle school, I began to realize what pressure they were under. I remember not having as much as other kids, but I had good values," Horacio recalls.

"My father taught me a lot, and he inspired me. I hope to be half the man he is."

When Horacio started running around with gangs and skipping school, his parents sat him down for a life-altering conversation.

His mother said: "What will I tell your little sisters when they’re crying at your funeral?"

That did it. The family moved to nearby Selah. Horacio buckled down and got more involved in school, clubs and sports. He took part-time jobs at a warehouse and a fast food restaurant. His mom signed him up for a scholarship program that promised to cover tuition if he made good grades and kept out of trouble.

When a UW Bothell recruiter came to his high school – on a day when Horacio was proudly wearing a purple and gold Washington sweater – the dream of attending a small public college with the prestige of the UW brand began to take root. His scholarship made that dream come true.

Now, the business major is setting his sights on law school – and on being a role model for his fellow UW Bothell students as well as his sisters.

"My sisters look up to their big brother. I want to help them get an education," says Horacio, who is also a member of Rotaract, a service club that's an offshoot of Rotary.

He says he plans to return to Selah to help his community and his family as an attorney. "Opportunity is everything. I want to give back to others."

"I WANTED TO BE THE ONE WHO WENT TO COLLEGE."

When she was in kindergarten, Heather Felix drew a girl in a graduation cap and gown for the "What do you want to be when you grow up?" wall at her school and declared, "I want to go to college!"

The teacher cautioned Heather that a lot of people in their community didn’t do that. That just made her want to go even more. Her parents hadn’t gone to college, and most kids she grew up with in the Appalachian Mountains went to work on farms or in trades like construction or welding.

None of that mattered to Heather. "Sometimes it seemed like a childhood fantasy – like it might never happen. But no matter what anybody said, I wanted to be the one who went to college," Heather says.

She kept her grades up in high school, set her sights on the Seattle area after spending a few summers with a family friend in Bothell, then left Pennsylvania behind – proud that her dream of going to college was finally coming true.

She was drawn to UW Bothell’s focus on interdisciplinary studies and extracurricular experiences like community volunteerism.

"I have the freedom to explore things that build me as a person, and it’s recognized," said Heather, who has excelled as a resident advisor and leader of the student activism group ACT (Achieving Community Transformation).

As an out-of-state student, Heather has relied on financial aid and scholarships – including one from the UW Bothell Alumni Student Support Endowed Fund. She also has worked two or three jobs at a time to make ends meet.

A job as a student assistant at the campus career center helped her zero in on occupational therapy as a profession that blends her interests in health, human rights and working with people with disabilities.

She wants more people like her younger brother, who’s on the autism spectrum, to gain confidence in what they can do rather than letting others define them by what they can’t do.

As she gears up to graduate with dual degrees in society, ethics and human behavior and health studies, Heather hopes that someday she can not only help people live better lives, but to make occupational therapy available to more people who can benefit from it.

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CAMILLE WALSH’S STUDENTS do their research – lots of it – long before shaking hands with the government leaders, diplomats and lobbyists, they travel to meet in Washington D.C. for an intensive week-long policy studies seminar.

They start in the spring, with about 20 students going through a vetting process to make sure they’re up to the challenge of researching a complex international human rights problem and using on-the-ground insights gathered to formulate policy recommendations.

Once selected, students dive in and dig deep, studying issues such as the impact of the Syrian refugee crisis on Turkey and other neighboring countries or the legal and social challenges that lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people face in Russia. They learn their issues inside out and prepare hard-hitting questions.

“Over the years, we’ve established that we are students who really know what we’re talking about,” says Lisa Maynard, a Masters of Arts in Policy Studies (MAPS) student, who took part in her second seminar this past September – this time as an assistant who helped coordinate the trip.

“Sometimes, people begin the meeting acting as though they expect an easy hour with college students asking softball questions,” says Lisa, who went on her first D.C. seminar while studying for her undergraduate degree in global studies.

“When they realize how prepared we are,” Lisa continues, “they ask us to follow up with them, so we can continue the conversation. It’s really engaging and empowering.”

It’s an experience that’s deepened the public policy expertise of many UW Bothell students every year since 1991 when Robert Schultz, one of UW Bothell’s founding faculty members, organized the first seminar.

“For many students, it’s one of those life-changing experiences they have in college,” Camille says. “To see them build their confidence as researchers, to learn they don’t need an assignment or to be told what to do … it’s incredible.”

More than 80 UW Bothell alumni gathered for a reunion earlier this fall to revel in the impact their D.C. seminars have had on their careers – and the impact they as policy experts are having on the world. W
A thousand girls (and a few curious boys) converge on UW Bothell to learn hands-on about the awesome opportunities of STEM

THE LONG LINE SNAKED ACROSS the sidewalk in front of Commons Hall, a bevy of slightly soggy girls in rain jackets and hoodies excitedly waiting their turn for an autograph.

But it wasn’t pop singer Taylor Swift who drew such a crowd. It was Dottie Metcalf-Lindenburger, a retired NASA astronaut and one-time Washington high school science teacher who flew aboard the Space Shuttle Discovery in 2010.

“What do you enjoy doing?” she asked the next girl in line. “You’re a coder? That’s awesome!” the astronaut cried, punctuating the praise with a high five as retired astronaut Wendy Lawrence – a member of the UW Bothell Advisory Board – smiled beside her.

The Inspire STEM Festival drew 1,000 middle schoolers, parents and teachers to campus on a blustery fall Saturday, offering up hands-on learning opportunities that sparked imaginations today and – hopefully – career dreams tomorrow.

“Our focus is on getting underrepresented and underserved communities into STEM,” explained Annette Anderson, Director of Curriculum and the founder of BWISE (UW Bothell Women in Science and Engineering). “By having these girls here in a college environment, they can see that women can pursue all types of pathways into science.”

Dozens of community partners gave kids plenty of chances to be amazed. Engaging with UW Bothell alumni and current students along with industry representatives, the middle schoolers examined the insides of a computer, used solar cells to power motors and tried out Google’s new glasses. They maneuvered a tiny remote-operated vehicle in a tank of water, felt the brush-like material inside a whale’s tooth and explored how the brain affects the optic nerves.

Lynn Hook, a senior computer scientist volunteering at the Adobe exhibit, said the festival was a great way to reach students who are just beginning to explore career interests.

“We are committed to getting students into using technology – in the classroom, sharing with their friends, in their careers, in life,” she said. “It’s especially important to invest this time in girls. There are not a lot of women in the industry and we want to promote it.”
“Science is one of my favorite subjects. I like discovering new things and doing stuff hands-on.”

DANIELA GARCIA
OLYMPIC VIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL, MUKILTEO

“It’s cool to come here and see all these things and get to work with them. I think I want to be an architectural engineer.”

ABHI KHANAL
NORTHSTAR MIDDLE SCHOOL, KIRKLAND
AS UW BOTHELL GROWS, so do great opportunities for alumni to get together and show their Husky spirit at fun-filled events near and far.

Dozens of alumni, students, faculty, staff and friends turned out for a football viewing party hosted by the Alumni Council this fall that raised more than $1,500 for scholarships for the Business & Organization Leadership Development (BOLD) program.

Los Angeles and San Francisco Bay Area alumni caught the food, fun and football fever when Chancellor Wolf Yeigh joined them in October. They brought Husky pride for Washington Warm-Up pre-game tailgate parties before the Dawgs took on the USC Trojans and the Stanford Cardinal.

Arizona alumni also connected with Chancellor Yeigh as they enjoyed a meet-and-greet at the home of a Phoenix-area UW Bothell alum.

Back in Seattle, more than 100 alumni, students and football fans turned out for the homecoming tailgate before the Washington-Oregon game. (Check UW Bothell Alumni’s Facebook, Twitter and Instagram feeds for details on other viewing parties.)

Football looms large in the fall. So does the Alumni Council’s focus on the Fall Job and Internship Fair, hosted by UW Bothell Career Services in partnership with Cascadia College. This year, more than 100 students and alumni received professional headshots at the Council’s free LinkedIn Photo Booth, which will be offered again at another Job and Internship Fair in the spring. (Visit the UW Bothell Alumni and Friends group on LinkedIn for more information.)

The Council also partnered with the City of Bothell and Friends of North Creek Forest to host the fifth annual Lend-a-Paw day of service. More than 60 students and alumni gathered to cut back invasive weeds and build trails in the North Creek Forest wildlife area.

We’ve planned many more exciting alumni events for the fall and winter. An event you won’t want to miss in March: an interactive screening and discussion of the “Empowerment Project,” featuring prominent women in the UW and UW Bothell community. The Alumni Council is hosting the event as part of Women’s History Month. Visit www.uwb.edu/alumni/events or email uwbalumn@uw.edu for more information.

See the back page for details about other alumni events.
Been anywhere awesome lately and want to see yourself in our Faces in Places section? Email your high-res photo to uwbalumn@uw.edu.

1. Laurel Williams (IAS ’15) explores Rome during her last quarter as a UW Bothell student.

2. Sean Buchanan (MBA ’13) near the Acropolis in Athens, Greece.

3. Priya Frank (MACS ’11) with Harry Belafonte during UW’s Equity and Difference Speaker Series.

4. Jerry Blackburn (IAS, ’05, MEd ’14) and daughter take an afternoon cruise on the Jetty Island Ferry.

5. Kim Judge (IAS ’11) and friend get ready for a day in Disneyland!

6. Erin Kerrigan (IAS ’10) and her partner in crime, Rascal, out for an early morning stroll at Golden Gardens Park.

7. Amy Rademaker (IAS ’10) about to hang loose on a beach in Sayulita, Mexico.

8. Jessica Trenkamp (IAS ’06, MAPS ’09) celebrates in style with her husband and son.
MONDAY, JANUARY 18
JOIN UW BOTHELL students and alumni for our annual MLK Day of Service, encouraging people from all walks of life to make a difference in our communities through meaningful, hands-on volunteer projects.

FRIDAY APRIL 8 AND SATURDAY, APRIL 9
JOIN UW BOTHELL and our regional partners to explore issues of diversity and inclusion at the UW Bothell Diversity Conference.

FRIDAY, MAY 6 TO SUNDAY, MAY 8
OUR INAUGURAL UW BOTHELL ALUMNI WEEKEND was such a resounding success, we’re doing it again. Don’t miss Alumni Night at the Mariners on May 6 and our 11th Annual Husky 5K and 2nd Annual Bothell Block Party on May 7 – a weekend full of celebrations, fun and raising funds for student scholarships.

STAY UP TO DATE ON ALL ALUMNI ACTIVITIES BY VISITING www.uwb.edu/alumni/events or learn more by emailing uwbalumn@uw.edu.

You can also sign up for our alumni e-newsletter, become a mentor or a guest lecturer, or volunteer for Alumni Council committees.

"I feel so well prepared for my profession as a teacher. I immediately put my coursework into practice and am constantly in awe at how explicitly applicable all of the lessons from my courses are to actually teaching in the real world."
- ASHLEY LIMBERG, K-8 TEACHER CERTIFICATION PROGRAM STUDENT

"Every classroom is filled with familiar faces. Students’ willingness to help one another out strengthens our relationship as a community. Our professors are diligent and genuinely care. They want to see each of their students succeed."
- VALERIE CHEN, SCHOOL OF BUSINESS STUDENT WITH A DUAL CONCENTRATION IN FINANCE AND MARKETING

"My UW Bothell education has expanded my understanding of the world. I have become a more critical thinker who’s able to look at one issue through different lenses - a skill that promotes creative considerations for social and political change."
- JASMYNE BRYANT, INTERDISCIPLINARY ARTS AND SCIENCES STUDENT MAJORING IN SOCIETY, ETHICS AND HUMAN BEHAVIOR

"UW Bothell connected me with some of the most admirable people working in the nursing profession today. They challenged me, and I have accomplished so much today because of their mentorship."
- DAVID BAURE, MASTER OF NURSING GRADUATE, 2013

The University of Washington is committed to providing equal opportunity and reasonable accommodation in its services, programs, activities, education and employment for individuals with disabilities. To request disability accommodations, please contact Disability Resources for Students at 425.352.5307, TDD 425.352.5303, FAX 425.352.3581, or email uwb-drs@uw.edu.