Green River Community College
2008 REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY
Solutions that Work
**VISION:** Green River will be a leading community college committed to creating opportunities for lifelong learning and student success.

**MISSION:** Green River Community College improves the lives of people within our diverse communities by providing quality education and training programs. We assist students in defining and achieving their goals through instructional excellence, innovative programs and responsive services.

1. **Institutional Goal:** **STUDENT LEARNING**
   Students will benefit from Green River’s commitment to learning as its highest priority.
   1. Transfer students will meet the requirements for transfer to successfully pursue a baccalaureate degree.
   2. Professional/technical and workforce students will master the skills sought by employers to be successful in the workplace.
   3. Under-prepared students will demonstrate competency in reading, English, and math that prepare them for success in college-level courses.
   4. Community members will have opportunities for life-long learning to enrich their lives personally, socially, and culturally.

2. **Institutional Goal:** **ACCESS**
   Members of our diverse communities will have reasonable access to affordable educational programs and services that meet their needs.

3. **Institutional Goal:** **SUCCESS OF UNDER-REPRESENTED STUDENTS**
   Under-represented students will be provided services that support their learning and promote student success.

4. **Institutional Goal:** **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**
   The community will benefit from Green River’s active participation in programs, events, collaborative partnerships, and entrepreneurial activities with government, business, and community organizations.

5. **Institutional Goal:** **FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP and PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY**
   The citizens of Washington will be ensured of Green River’s consistent practice of responsible fiscal stewardship and public accountability.

**GREEN RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION MISSION STATEMENT:**
GRCC Foundation provides resources to assist Green River Community College in achieving educational excellence.

**2008 Green River Profile**
- Over 1,300 Running Start students from area high schools
- Median student age of 22
- Nearly 1,500 international students from 40 countries
- Accredited by Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU)
- 55% of students attend full-time
- 57% of students are female
Dear Friends,

Through the lenses of accountability, this Report to the Community highlights many of the accomplishments of Green River Community College and Green River Community College Foundation. We are pleased to share our successes and challenges with you.

Student success is at the heart of what we do at Green River. However, it’s not enough just to talk about success without being able to demonstrate whether the college is truly meeting its goals. These objectives, which are detailed in this report, are powerful outcome statements that are developed, reviewed and monitored by Green River’s Board of Trustees, ultimately leading to improvements for our students and enhancements for our community.

Simply put, our mission is to improve lives. For as straightforward as our mission is, Green River serves a broad and diverse population from recent immigrants with minimal English to National Merit Scholars intent on transferring to some of the most prestigious universities in the country.

This is challenging work, which is made even more difficult in trying times of state budget reductions, tuition increases and underfunded programs. Yet, we know that a well-educated workforce is a prime driver of a vital economy and a key to the coming recovery, making access to our educational programs and services even more critical today.

That is where we need your help. There is nothing more important than the investment in our students, and the Green River Community College Foundation leads that effort. Since the Foundation was established in 1975, there has been nothing as integral in the development and growth of the college. Through the Foundation, countless students have returned their educational benefit directly back into improving and supporting themselves and their communities.

The stories of our student successes in this report are a key indicator of how your commitment has aided our college mission. On behalf of Green River Community College and Green River Community College Foundation, thank you for your continued support.

Rich Rutkowski, GRCC President
Green River Community College

Robert G. Johnston, M.D., President
Green River Community College Foundation

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A two-year public college founded in 1965
Located in Auburn, on 250 wooded acres, with branch campuses in Kent and Enumclaw
36% students of color
Total annual enrollment of over 16,413 full-time and part-time students
Over 840 employees, including more than 137 full-time and 373 adjunct faculty

Rich Rutkowski, GRCC President, with Dr. Robert Johnston, GRCC Foundation President.
Student Profile: Joshua Kim

Joshua Kim plans to transfer to the California Institute of the Arts to become an animation artist. Like many students, he has big plans for his future and Green River is part of his success. A Running Start student, he completes his assignments at Kent Mountainview Academy and Green River, and creates art. Josh received scholarships from Green River and the Pratt Fine Art Center, and a first place prize in a Beijing Olympics poster contest. Most of the credit for his success, however, goes to his mentors: “I’m where I am because of the support of my family, my mentors, my high school and Green River.”

Faculty Excellence

Excellent faculty inspire great learning. The Green River Community College Foundation supports Faculty Excellence through an endowment with help from matching dollars from the state. In one of the projects funded in 2008, Hank Galmish, English, and Paul Metivier, Ceramics enhanced student learning by combining their fields. Students in Hank’s Myths of the World course explored these myths as they shaped clay masks under Paul’s instruction. Creating a physical representation allowed students to discover the literature in a more complete way. Staff member Vic Rivet was instrumental in helping the students with their ceramics projects, some of which are pictured to the left.

Ceramic masks created by students during a Faculty Excellence project.
Student Profile: Michael Farnum

U.S. Army veteran Michael Farnum is currently working toward an AAS in Natural Resources/GIS at Green River Community College. His military career fostered a passion for the outdoors. He plans to use his training for a career in research and analysis with GIS in forestry or wildlife management. Michael is a team leader with the Veterans Conservation Corps, the Green River Society of American Foresters Student Chapter Treasurer, and the GIS Alliance Chair. The VCC and Green River provide the tools to start a second career which will allow him work in the best office ever made, our forests.

Veterans Conservation Corps Benefits

The Veterans Conservation Corps began in Washington State in 2007, and is housed at Green River Community College, hosted by the GIS (Geographic Information Systems), Natural Resources, and Water/Wastewater programs. It benefits both veterans and the environment by providing volunteer opportunities on projects that help protect and restore Washington's rivers, streams, lakes, marine waters and open lands. In addition to taking classes, veterans last year worked with a variety of governmental agencies on habitat restoration projects. A wildlife and vegetation project on the Duwamish River earned the Veterans Conservation Corps the Coastal America 2007 Partnership Award.

Veterans Conservation Corps

33% of first-time, degree-seeking students who began at Green River three years ago completed their degree. Green River’s three-year graduation rate exceeds the average rate state and nationwide.

Society of American Foresters

The Society of American Foresters named GRCC National Student Chapter of the year for three consecutive years.

Our Workforce is Changing

81% of students were employed seven to nine months after leaving Green River and earned on average more than $16 per hour (reported in 2007 dollars).

35% of local residents or family members have been laid off in the past 3 years.

One third of laid-off workers can’t find similar jobs.

Green River awarded a total of 2,120 degrees, certificates, and diplomas. This included 790 transfer degrees, 1,053 workforce degrees and certificates, and 277 others, including GED and high school diplomas.

The college served over 570 dislocated workers through its Worker Retraining Program.
Continuing Education – Prime Time

The college recognizes that our community is enriched by adults over 55. The Prime Time Institute meets the needs of this active population. Now in its fourth year, Prime Time is organized and led by its own members, with college administrative support. Members enjoy stimulating, intellectual learning through non-credit courses, discussion groups, and social activities. In 2008, we had 195 participants in a variety of quarterly classes such as:

- Northwest Coast Indian Culture and Art
- Yakima Valley Wineries Tour
- Healthy Aging and Nutrition Classes
- Election 2008: National Issues
- Port of Seattle Tour
- Southwest Indian Prehistory and Culture
- China: Re-emerging Giant

Project TIME – The Importance of Math

Over 70% of students are entering GRCC under-prepared in math. Project TIME (Transitions In Math Education) is doing something about that by creating a collaboration between college and high school math faculty and school administrators to develop high school math courses. Over 14 high schools have begun offering senior level courses aimed at keeping students in math during their senior year and better preparing them for college level math. Project TIME wraps up its third year of a three year effort in June 2009. This project was part of a statewide initiative funded by the Washington State Legislature and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Students enrolled in the Basic Skills program at Green River continue to perform higher than the state average with 61% of students completing basic skills levels (as defined by federally approved standardized test). Nearly 75% of students enrolled in developmental math, reading and writing successfully completed their classes.

More than 100 people attended one event offered by Continuing Education focusing on recycling, energy conservation, sustainability, water conservation, and other “green” topics.

Students take the COMPASS assessment test during Math Advisory Night.

Rich Rutkowski addresses members of the Prime Time Institute.
Green River has seen substantial growth in eLearning over the past few years. Last year, eLearning accounted for more than 26% of the college’s total enrollment.

Over 64% of financial aid dollars were awarded in the form of scholarships and grants. The remainder was in the form of student loans (32%) and work study (4%).

The college exceeded its enrollment targets for Running Start and international students by 17% and 70% respectively.

Students list financial cost as their number one barrier to continue their education.

Zgolinski Welcome Center Opens Doors

Every student should have access to a college education – that philosophy led longtime Green River supporter and former Foundation Board member Dan Zgolinski to help create the Zgolinski Welcome Center. On June 2, 2008, Green River dedicated the Center, where all new students begin their college experience. “Helping to fund the Center with a matching gift is one of the significant actions Dan has undertaken to make Green River a great place for students,” says President Rutkowski. Dan has also provided scholarships to assist over 30 students in reaching their goals.

Scholarship Profile: Jane Clare Gattavara

In 2007, Chuck and Karen Riley funded the Jane Clare Gattavara scholarship via the estate of Karen’s cousin, Jane Gattavara. Karen and Jane’s grandfather came from Genoa, Italy, in 1900, to work the mines. Because of his hard work and later success, his descendants are now able to give back to the community to help future generations succeed. Five Jane Clare Gattavara scholarships were awarded this year to members of the class of 2008 in Auburn, Enumclaw, Federal Way, Kent, and Renton school districts. Kathryn Murray, Enumclaw HS shared: “Your scholarship is an important part in achieving my goals”.

“We’ve been really impressed with these scholarship recipients. It’s exciting to play a role in helping them achieve their goals.”

–Chuck Riley

GRCC Foundation Scholarships

173 scholarships were awarded to 162 students.
385 students applied
43% of applicants received a scholarship
Average scholarship: $1,496
The percentage of students of color enrolled at Green River continues to increase each year.

### CAP Provides a Pathway

Two years ago Jacob Furfaro had dropped out of high school and he was just beginning to think about a new direction for his future. Now a college scholarship recipient with a 3.75 GPA, Jacob attributes his success to challenging courses at Green River and the support of programs like CAP (the Commencement Achievement Program). CAP works in collaboration with faculty, Diversity Services and other Green River offices to improve retention rates of minority students and create a more inclusive, welcoming campus for all students. CAP also works specifically with Washington Achievers and Passport to College scholarship recipients to support them on their path toward a four-year college degree.

### Graduate Update: Angelica Gonzalez

Since our last publication, Green River alumna Angelica Gonzalez was named to the All-Washington Academic Team representing Green River, received the 2008 Green River President’s Award, and was awarded a $12,000 University of Washington Tacoma Next Step Scholarship – one of 7 annual scholarships statewide.

### Percent Students of Color

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2003-04</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004-05</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005-06</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006-07</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007-08</td>
<td>36%</td>
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The CAP program served 163 students, an increase of 24% compared to the previous year.

58% of first-time, degree-seeking students of color who began their education at Green River in fall 2007 were retained to fall quarter their second year. This rate is comparable to that of white students at 59%.

High-risk students are three times more likely to drop out.

The 2008 graduating class was reflective of the college’s diverse student body. 57% of graduates were female, 34% were students of color, and 6% reported a disability.

78% of alumni said their overall impression of the quality of education at Green River was excellent or above average.
TRiO

TRiO Student Support Services is a federally-funded program charged to work with students who are economically disadvantaged, first-generation in college, or have disabilities. At Green River, TRiO helps students stay in college and graduate so they have a better chance of beating the statistics. This worked for Sherrill Aitken, a former TRiO participant and 2008 Green River graduate. Statistically, the less education a head of a household has completed, the lower the family income. Sherrill says that the power of her education from Green River coupled with our TRiO advising has made the difference between existing in poverty and earning a living wage in a career with a wide variety of options.

Distinguished Faculty member lends a hand

Green River Community College Foundation and Puget Sound Energy recognized three distinguished faculty with awards at Commencement in June 2008: Andy Anderson, English; Roger Knutsen, Chemistry; and Dr. Marianne Jacobs, Anthropology. Dr. Jacobs found her life’s passion in the study of anthropology, beginning with medical anthropology and culminating in expertise in Northwest Coast Indian culture and peoples. She used her faculty award to create a scholarship to assist students with Native American heritage and named the scholarship in honor of her long time friend, Storm Jack. The Storm Jack Scholarship will be awarded for the first time for the 2009-10 academic year.

TRiO Fall to Fall Persistence

<table>
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<th>Year</th>
<th>Persistence</th>
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<tr>
<td>2007-08</td>
<td>78%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2006-07</td>
<td>68%</td>
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The percentage of TRiO participants at Green River who persisted to their second year exceeded the program goal two years in a row.

Green River is the Answer

Almost 50% of low-income students are out of poverty 2 years after graduation.

A total of 576 students enrolled in 2007-08 were immigrants or refugees.

Jobs requiring certificates/degrees pay 50% more on average.

The GRCC Foundation supported 7 Faculty Excellence Projects and 3 Distinguished Faculty Awards.

Nearly 64% of the 2008 graduates indicated that Green River greatly contributed to their increased understanding and appreciation of people from different ethnic and cultural groups.
Green River gets involved

The role that Green River students, staff, and faculty members serve in our community doesn’t end at the campus exit. From Auburn’s Clean Sweep to staffing phones for pledge drives, volunteers roll up their sleeves and pitch in. One group logged 131 hours clearing trash along the Duwamish Curve in Tukwila while another cleared the Green River Forest trails of downed trees. Not all the work is done outside; students and employees also serve on boards of non-profits and service clubs. From the classroom to the board, parks and parking lots, watch for Green River Gators improving your community.

Leadership Institute

In the late 90’s, the Auburn Chamber of Commerce worked with local chambers, businesses, and organizations to meet the need for more civic and community involvement. The answer was the Leadership Institute of South Puget Sound. In June 2008, three Green River employees joined a growing list of Green River employees who have graduated from the program: Jennifer Cooke, Phillip Neal, and Cyndi Rapier. Phillip Neal, Director of Communications and Program Marketing, was elected as class speaker and reminded his class that graduation is one step; getting involved and giving back is the next.

Kent Campus Expansion

Starting with a ground breaking on June 24, 2008, residents have watched the Green River Kent Campus grow. Opening for classes in September 2009, Phase II will add 40,000 square feet, including twenty-two classrooms, a multidiscipline science lab, and the capacity for video conferencing. Service for local students is growing too: added classroom space makes it possible for students to complete an Associate degree at the Kent Campus. Green River is also partnering with Central Washington University to offer the third and fourth years of a teaching degree, with other 4-year degree options as additional possibilities.

Be Part of the Solution

Your scholarship gift can help students transform their lives.

The Greatest Needs Fund lends flexibility and stability to the GRCC Foundation.

Flexibility allows the Foundation to address needs unmet by restricted funds.

A stable Foundation is key for stewarding funds to achieve long-term goals.

The Continuing Education Business Training Program has secured nine Job Skills Program grants for local businesses totaling nearly a half million dollars.
Solutions Supporting FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP and PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY

GRCC Revenues

- Federal, State Local Grants: $28,390,912
- State Support-Operating: 26,803,691
- Auxiliary Enterprises: 7,084,564
- Tuition and Fees: 12,720,487

TOTAL: $74,999,654

GRCC Expenditures

- Financial Aid/Restricted Funds: $11,161,566
- Restricted/Unrestricted Reserves: 4,623,103
- Student Services: 6,963,944
- Plant: 3,480,672
- Institutional Support: 11,161,069
- Auxiliary Enterprises: 6,342,557
- Instruction: 31,266,743

TOTAL: $74,999,654

GRCC Foundation Financial Summary*

The fund balance for fiscal year ending June 30, 2008 is represented by:

- Cash and cash equivalents: $1,408,164
- Investments: 12,198,356
- Accounts Receivable: 88,428
- Other Receivables: 314,714
- Annuity Contracts: 234,056
- Other Assets: 43,132
- Land: 367,808
- Debt Issuance Costs: 1,576,936
- Buildings & Equipment: 11,695,483

Total Assets as of June 30, 2008: $27,927,077

- Accounts Payable and Other: 242,274
- LLC Unearned Revenue and Deposits: 295,029
- Interest Note and Bond Payable: 19,422,047

Total Liabilities as of June 30, 2008: $19,959,350

Net Assets as of June 30, 2008: $7,967,727

* Financial statements may be reviewed at the Foundation Office.