SKAGIT VALLEY COLLEGE
Currents
3rd Issue of 2008

Sustainability
Learn about the college’s efforts to go green

Accountability Report to the Community

Foundation Annual Report

SVC Culinary Arts & Hedlin Farms
— An Organic Blend of Skill, Passion & Excellence

“RATED AMONG THE BEST COMMUNITY COLLEGES IN THE NATION.”
— Washington Monthly magazine, August 2007

“Rated among the best community colleges in the nation.”
— Washington Monthly magazine, August 2007
Skagit Valley College has always tried to operate in an “earth-friendly” manner and this past year we have definitely improved our sustainability efforts. Thanks to passionate students, strong community support and dedicated faculty and staff, we have implemented a variety of sustainable practices in curriculum and campus operations.

Student activism has truly revitalized campus recycling and composting initiatives. The SVC Environmental Club has been a driving force in procuring recycling cans, encouraging use of compostable products, replacing storm drain filters to improve water quality, and selling compostable, corn-based coffee mugs.

Combining academics with experiential learning is an essential element to sustainability education. For over 16 years, Dr. Claus Svendsen has provided students the opportunity to research environmental issues and help problem solve regional sustainability issues as part of the college’s Environmental Conservation program.

In this issue you will also learn how our Culinary Arts, eLearning, and Business & Community Development programs are providing a tremendous boost to sustainable education. Our annual sustainability fairs, hosted on both Mount Vernon and Whidbey campuses, continue to advocate the importance of protecting critical resources.

As this school year begins, it is exciting to watch construction of the college’s first LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified building. The new Science and Allied Health Building project recently received a state grant for $260,000 to install solar panels. This competitive grant was awarded to four institutions in Washington to increase green power generation and visibility.

Sustainability efforts involve all of us as a community. On behalf of the Skagit Valley Board of Trustees, thank you for helping provide community leadership and education in sustainable practices.

Sincerely,

Dr. Gary Tollefson
President
**Sources of Funding**

- State Funds: 55%
- Student Tuition: 24%
- Locally Generated Revenue: 21%

**Operating Expenditures by Category**

- Salary & Benefits for Teaching and Support: 82%
- Goods & Services: 14%
- Equipment: 3%
- Travel: 1%

**Age & Gender**

- The average age for students enrolled at SVC was 32. The majority of students were female with an average age of 33. In contrast, the average age for male students was 29.

  - Female: 63%
  - Male: 37%

**Attendance**

- Part-Time: 63%
- Full-Time: 37%

**Ethnic Diversity**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>4,451</td>
<td>72%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
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<td>Asian/Pacific Islander</td>
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<tr>
<td>International</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Other/Not Specified</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native American/Native Alaskan</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td>100%</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Educational Program Enrolled**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University/College Transfer</td>
<td>2,391</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workforce Training</td>
<td>1,800</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basic Skills</td>
<td>808</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Degree</td>
<td>599</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apprentice</td>
<td>332</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Home &amp; Family</td>
<td>268</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>6,198</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**2007-2008 Scholarships & Financial Aid**

The SVC Foundation awarded over $240,000 in scholarships to SVC students; $8 million in Financial Aid was distributed to 1,800 students.

**2007-2008 Degrees & Certificates Awarded**

The college awarded 551 degrees, 386 certificates, and 33 high school diplomas.
**Student Leadership**

SVC 2008 Environmental Award

Recipient Chris Gourley agrees with Svendsen, along with a number of fellow students who helped her implement a variety of sustainable initiatives last year. “Our Environmental Club works very hard to educate students and SVC employees about the importance of recycling, composting, using green products, and reducing our carbon footprint,” Gourley stated.

The Environmental Club partnered with student government and the SVC President’s Fund to buy 400 recycle cans for all offices and classrooms at the Mount Vernon campus. They also worked with the Cardinal Bookstore to sell compostable, corn-based coffee mugs. To encourage coffee mug use and reduce disposable cup waste, the club created a program with the SVC Culinary Arts Club to provide beverage discounts for anyone using the mug at the campus coffee bar. The club installed new drain filters to increase water quality, placed native plants near the campus retention pond to help filter water for salmon streams, and purchased more bike racks to encourage people to ride instead of drive.

“Sustainability means something different to each of us. It’s a very personal issue, yet it is also a common goal. Conservation starts with you, but it does not stop with you,” Gourley explained. “Our actions fit into a much larger picture.”

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**For Business & Community Development “Green Living” courses, call 360.416.7873**

**For Environmental Conservation program information visit www.skagit.edu/environmental**

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*Sustainability defined as “Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs,” United Nations Bruntland Commission, 1993.

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**“Walking the Talk”**

The SVC Environmental Conservation program’s sustainable practices in the classroom have served as a role model to other college programs. The department has tremendously reduced paper use by posting PowerPoint presentations, syllabi, and other course information on Blackboard, an online course management system available to all SVC faculty. “The Blackboard software system has the capability of truly reducing paper use for all college classes. I hand out very little paper now,” Svendsen said. Faculty members throughout the college are adopting these practices.

In addition to modeling “earth-friendly” practices in class, Svendsen engages students in environmental restoration research throughout Washington. This hands-on research provides students the opportunity to problem solve regional sustainability issues.

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“We do not inherit the environment from our ancestors—we borrow it from our children.”

~ Native American Proverb
**eLearning**

Online and hybrid courses (taught half the time in a classroom, half online) help sustainability efforts by reducing commutes and providing a significant cost-savings for students, faculty and campus operations. “Our eLearning programs continue to grow in class offerings and enrollment, based on increasing student and community demand,” Jill Weber, SVC eLearning Coordinator said. “Online and hybrid courses allow students to sustain other parts of their life, like parenting and full-time work. These programs also help reduce commuting and childcare costs—it’s a win-win relationship for students and the college.”

**Green Facilities**

Another key to sustainable education is energy efficient facilities. “Skagit Valley College is committed to creating high performance educational facilities to ensure the optimal health of our students and employees,” Dennis Rohloff, director of Physical Plant said. “We are always looking for ways to improve energy efficiency.”

Recent sustainability efforts at Whidbey Island campus include the large wall of windows constructed in Oak Hall to maximize natural light and elevated landscaping to help channel storm water in an “earth-friendly” manner.

The new Science and Allied Health building, currently under construction on the Mount Vernon campus, will be the first campus building specifically designed using the U.S. Green Building Council LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification criteria. It will be 30 percent more energy efficient than a traditionally constructed building. A state solar panel grant for $260,000 will increase green power generation and visibility and a rain garden filled with native plants will absorb water more effectively than common landscaping.

**Commitment**

Each year the Mount Vernon and Whidbey Island campuses host sustainability fairs to advocate the importance of protecting critical resources. A new SVC Sustainability Committee has recently been created to help facilitate green projects and practices for the college and new sustainability projects continue to emerge at all college campuses and centers. “Skagit Valley College is committed to teaching sustainable practices to both students and employees,” Gary Tollefson, SVC President stated. “We will continue to model best practices in sustainability as we design educational programs, maintain our campuses and build new facilities.”
Skagit Valley College Culinary Arts program is dedicated to integrating fresh, local and earth-friendly products, as well as build relationships with local, earth-friendly chefs who use sustainable practices and products. The program was awarded an innovation grant for these efforts from the Washington State Board for Community and Technical College (SBCTC) to develop a Community, Hospitality, Education, Farms and Sustainability (C.H.E.F.S.) program last school year.

“An exciting element of this grant has been the opportunity for our culinary students to help design the program,” SVC Chef Instructor Martin Hahn, CCC, CCE*, noted. “They were able to see their concepts put into action to support local food producers.” The Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges awards only ten innovation grants per year. Each award program is required to provide leadership and pilot an initiative so that educational programs throughout the state can replicate successful curriculum.

“Before we received this grant we were already buying local as much as we could,” Hahn stated. “This extra funding allowed us to expand educational opportunities and bring local food producers and chefs into the college to show students how they practice sustainability in their operations.” The culinary department used approximately 45 different products from local producers in Skagit Valley last year. Food items from at least eight of those producers were used on a weekly basis.

“It’s important for us to see where our product comes from,” Seth Tyson, SVC Culinary Arts student said. “I like to support local farmers who put a great deal of care into what they are providing. When you know where your products come from and can see them grow, you know you are getting top quality and as fresh as it gets.”

“Using local suppliers teaches our students how to keep a flexible menu and plan around the seasonal harvests,” Hahn said. “As chefs in the early days we always thought seasonally in order to maximize the fresh produce. It is nice to see a large number of chefs moving back to that process.”

Preparing fresh, local food requires increased planning and different food preparation techniques as well as learning how to order “just in time” to reduce food waste. “Our
students are learning to be creative with fresh food since you have to use it very quickly,” SVC Chef Instructor Dani Cox, CPC, CCC, CCE* stated.

During the 2007-2008 school year all food served in the Cardinal Café was from local producers, approximately 15-20 percent of cafeteria food was locally produced. Large food service suppliers continue to increase their local offerings based on customer demand, but delivery of fresh, local items is still a very big challenge, Lyn Hight, SVC Food Services Manager explained.

In addition to using local food products, the culinary arts program is using a variety of sustainable practices in their operations and facility management. Kitchen operations use a large amount of resources—water for food preparation, hand washing; electricity for lights and large cooking equipment. “We are recycling and composting as much as we can to reduce waste,” Hight said.

The recent remodel of the SVC Student Center and Culinary Arts facility is also helping sustainable practices. The new facility has room to hold more reusable dishes to reduce waste. Compostable, corn-based products were introduced last year, including plates, cups and utensils. Other sustainable practices include composting pre and post consumer kitchen scraps, growing herbs outside the bakery kitchen window, and giving coffee grounds to the biology department to feed composting worms.

Used fryer oil is given to the SVC Diesel Technology Program to be converted into diesel fuel that is then given to the SVC Trucking Department to use as fuel for their semi-trucks—a great example of inter-departmental sustainable practices at Skagit Valley College. This efficient use of used oil saves the culinary program over $400 per year in disposal costs.

“We want our students to graduate from our program with an increased awareness of how important it is to buy ‘earth-friendly’ local, fresh products,” Hight said. “The amazing diversity of local foods in the Skagit Valley makes it very easy to create interesting and great tasting fresh food.”

*Certified Culinary Educator (CCE); Certified Chef de Cuisine (CCC); Certified Pastry Chef (CPC)
As the Skagit Valley College Foundation celebrates 30 years of supporting student success, it is very gratifying to reflect on the past several years and note the SVC Foundation’s continued growth and stability. Skagit Valley College has established a rich tradition of making a difference in people’s lives in Skagit, Island, and San Juan counties. Many of our family members, friends and neighbors have walked through our doors to make their dreams a reality through the various learning opportunities the college provides.

SVC Foundation Highlights for the 2007-2008 school year:
- SVC Foundation donations totaled $1,058,192 — an amazing 260 percent increase from last year
- Four new endowed scholarships were created
- Endowment portfolio increased by $623,689 — a 12 percent increase from last year
- Endowment balance has grown to $6,011,633

As we celebrate this outstanding donor support, our work must continue to meet growing needs. With the cost of tuition now nearly $1,000 per quarter, more than 40 percent of our students receive some type of financial aid to complete their educational goals at Skagit Valley College.

We are all blessed with a beautiful valley, a community with a deep tradition of giving and a spirit of collaboration that creates a wonderful place to live and raise our families that rivals any place in the world. Thank you for your vital support! Your donations continue to make a difference in the lives of students — their success helps sustain our treasured community.

Sincerely,

Cecilia Johnson, President

Board Of Governors 2007-2008

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Skagit Valley College 2007-2008

DR. GARY TOLLEFSON, PRESIDENT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES—
MARGARET ROJAS, CHAIR
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DEBRA LISSER
DON PIERCY
JOHN STEPHENS
"I cannot adequately convey how much this scholarship means to me. I know that with your support, I will succeed. I look forward to coming back to Skagit Valley College and repaying the community that has made my learning experience a tremendous joy!"

2008 SVC Foundation Scholarship Recipient
PRESIDENT’S CLUB  [$500-999]

Ace Hardware
Allstate Insurance
American Association of University Women
Gordon Babcock
George and Lisa Biehl
Birch Equipment Company
Blade Chevrolet
Robert and Barbara Carney
Chaine des Rotisseurs
Chicago Title
Thomas Clatterbuck, Sr.
Sharon Cole Waldschmidt and Leo Waldschmidt
Megan Colwell
Consumer Rental Center
Debra Cruse
Double Barrel BBQ
Express Personnel Services
Frontier Bank
Jim and Becky Goodrow
Tom and Barbara Harker
Charles Hellam
Rich and Betsy Humphrey
Mark Iverson
Karl’s Paints
Richard Kimsey
Lake Erie Trucking
Les Schwab Tire Centers
Lisser & Associates PLLC
Robert Malphrus
Michael Bertrand Photography
Tony Morefield
Bud and Marcia Norris
Oostra Rouw Insurance Agency
Ray and Denise Padgett
Pat Rimmer Tire Center
Christina Pflugfelder
Roger and Wendy Ragusa
Rain For Rent
Sakuma Brothers Farms Inc.
Scamper Charters
Jim and Mary Scott
Seattle Seahawks
Sedro-Woolley Kiwanis
Fay and Thomas Shane
Shelter Bay Yacht Club
Sims Honda
Skagit Art Association
Soroptimist Int’l of Oak Harbor
SVC Board of Trustees
SVC Whidbey Island Campus
Faculty & Staff
Swinomish Tribal Council
Tesorio Northwest Company
Treehouse Produce
Edward and Mia Wallgren
Deryl Walls
Cristina and Brian Waltner
Lana Whisman
Stephanie and Doug Wood

FOUNDATION CLUB  [$300-499]

Anderson Appliance & TV
Earl Angevine, Esq.
Barbara and Bernis Bailey
Banner Bank
Best Western Harbor Plaza
Blythe Plumbing & Heating, Inc.
Carboline Company
Cascade Clay Artists
Central Welding Supply
Garret and Geri Cole
Combined Fund Drive
Susan Cooper
Costco Wholesale
Davis Industries
Discount Party Store
Sue Doherty
Dunkin & Bush, Inc.
Harriet Eaton
Nancy and Mark Fey
E P Hackenberg
Harrah’s/Harvey’s
Allen and Mary Ivey
Jean’s Plant Farm
The Jewelry Gallery
John E. Kingma & Associates, CPAs, P.C.
Kenmore Air Express

2007-08 EXCEPTIONAL FACULTY AWARDS
This year’s Exceptional Faculty Awards, totaling $42,700, were approved by the Board of Trustees for 2007-2008.

FINISHED WORK:

Gail Bruce
Leadership in the review process of General Education recommendations

Neta Cahill
Service and leadership in building bridges between the campus and community

Eve Deisher
Organization and leadership of SVC’s Artsphere

Diane Johnson
Quest for Carnegie fundraising

Vicki Matzen
Design of an online reading component

Chuck Stevens
Mathematics instruction

Ernest Tutt
“Voices of Freedom” presentation

WORK IN PROGRESS:

Gary Eckermann
Biodiesel training and campus sustainability project

Jan Helm
Completion of a master’s degree in Nursing

Lou LaBombard
Cross-cultural study of Maori and selected Native American nations

Candace Lower
English 170 online workbook

Leslie Lukasik
Establishing links between Chilean colleges/universities and SVC to offer joint study opportunities

Stephanie Machlin, Ruth Meacham, Ben Munsey, and Angel Santana
Development of a standards-based ESL curriculum

Dan Nelson
Completion of master’s coursework

Ted O’Connell
Calmecac, a Place of Learning

Lisa Spreyer, Jean Markert, Theresa Donavon, and Elizabeth Stutzman
Professional development needs assessment for Basic Skills faculty
COLLEGE CLUB  [$100-299]

Jon and Susan  
Aarstad  
Michael Abbott  
Flora and George  
Adams  
Debbie and Steve  
Aldrich  
James and Joyce  
Anderson  
Trish Barnes  
Baron & Company  
Blau Oyster  
Company  
Laura Cailloux  
Candlewood Suites  
Carla’s Shear  
Inspiration  
Catholic  
Community  
Services WW-NW

CH2M Hill  
Engineering Services  
Coaching Inns of America  
Coca Cola  
David and Patricia  
Cohick  
Concrete Nor’West  
Harriet and James  
Custer  
Marie and Clint  
Duckworth  
H. Robert and Ann  
Dursch  
Maryrose Eannace  
Eddyline Kayaks  
Jacob Eigenbrood  
Elements Hotel and Spa  
Phyllis Ennes  
Farmhouse Inn  
Ron Feld and Lorna  
Klemanski  
First American Title of Skagit County  
Flowserve Corporation  
Thomas and Fran  
Ford  
Alix Foster  
Lyne Fournette  
Frasers Gourmet Hideaway  
Emelnye and Craig  
Fredlund  
GE Betz  
Margo Grothe  
Hampton Inn & Suites  
Janice Hayes  
William and Jean  
Heflin  
Gerald and Edna  
Heine  
Marilyn Hektner  
Hertz Equipment  
Janet Heverling  
Jane and Paul  
Hohne  
Holiday Inn Express  
Home Depot  
Hotel Planter  
Gail and Sherie  
Iverson  
JOE’S  
Cecilia and Bob  
Johnson  
Don Kelly  
Kiwanis Club of Burlington  
Al Kootje  
James and Toni  
Kotschwar  
Josef Kunzler  
Lori and Jeffrey  
Lacey  
Lakeside Industries  
Mark and Chi  
Liddell  
Norma Lisherness  
Philip and Linda  
Madden  
Corey Mendoza and Jyl  
Bruns  
Teresa Miller  
John and Judith  
Montoya  
Moon River Metal Works  
Mount Vernon Community Wellness Council  
Alan and Amy Muia  
Myrtle Creek Golf Course  
Navy Federal Credit Union  
North Whatcom Fire & Rescue  
Dimity O’Neil  
Outlook Inn  
Peep’s Photography  
Maureen Pettitt  
Pioneer Market  
Susan and Dale  
Ragan  
Republic Indemnity  
Stella Ralph  
Jill and Marinus  
Row  
Bradley Russell  
Safeway Services  
Dave Scott  
Seven Sisters, Inc.  
Gary Sheets  
Brian Shelly  
Skagit Land Trust  
Dale and Lindy  
Smith  
Linda Smith  
Pat Smith  
William and  
Robertta Stady  
William and Eloise  
Stendal  
David and Isabel  
Stewart  
Stiles & Stiles Inc., P.S.  
SVC Culinary Arts  
Synergy Salon  
Gregory Tate and Twila  
Johnson-Tate Thrive  
Mary Tyler  
United General Hospital  
Larry and Carol Van  
Sickle  
Bruce and Ann Van  
Tassell  
Wal-Mart Oak Harbor  
George Welch  
Wells Fargo Foundation  
Don Wick  
Gene and Sandi  
Willett  
Linda Wovod  
Troy Wright  
Dallas and Darlene  
Wylie  
Carl Young and  
Anne Hodgin

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Anderson  
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Cafe & Bakery  
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Elements Hair Studio  
Les Ellis  
Steve Epperson  
eSentra Skin Care  
Ben Fackler-Adams  
Kevin and Marlene  
Fakkema  
Robert and Susan  
Fakkema  
Farm to Market Bakery  
Patrick and Cynthia  
Ford  
Scott and Josee  
Fraser  
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Galletly  
Stephanie Greene  
The Greenhouse Florist & Nursery  
Kay and Rick  
Grinstead  
Gerald and  
Margaret Grunwald  
Gary Guinn  
Viviano Gutierrez  
Martin Hahn  
Jennifer Handley  
Willa Hansen  
Carolyn Headley  
Headlines Salon  
Hellam’s Vineyard  
Edwin Henderson  
Linda Hendrick  
Jack and Geraldine  
Henriot  
Janet Hersey  
Alan Heugh  
Lyn and John  
Hight  
Kimberly Holmes  
Carol Huber and  
David Harrell  
Winifred Huddel  
William Hughes  
Susan Hunt  
Jeannine Jacobson and Robert  
Chin  
Janet’s Clothing  
Jennings Yarn & Needlecrafts  
Dave and Arlene  
Johnson  
Diane and Mark  
Johnson  
Michelle Koci  
Vivian Koetje  
La Conner Brewing Company  
The La Conner Pub  
Marianna Lacey  
Gareld and Dona  
Lanterman  
Michael and Pattie  
Lewis  
Thomas and Shirley  
Lewis  
Darlene Libbey  
Charles Luckmann  
Mike and Barbara  
Matheson  
Dave McCool  
Alec McDougall  
Darece McLean  
John and Carol  
McMahon  
Rich Meadows  
Steve and Judy  
Metcalf  
Fred and Arlene  
Miller  
Barbara Moburg  
Ken and Carol  
Murphy  
Tim Murphy  
Neil Thorn  
Restaurant  
Arlene and Robert  
Nelson  
Dan Nelson  
The Next Chapter Bookstore  
Dan Nordstrom  
Tamara Oakes  
The Olive Shoppe and  
Ginger Grater  
The Only Pizza  
Parlor In Town  
Elizabeth Oshiro  
Mike Ostrom  
The Oystercatcher  
P.E.O. Chapter HO  
Cheryl and Wayne  
Palmer  
Robert and Jean  
Pass  
Dirk Peterson  
Naomi Peterson  
Bob and Michelle  
Pettjohn  
Andrea Pike  
Printwise, Inc.  
Prostock Athletic Supply  
Dave and Allene  
Quall  
Lisa and Steven  
Radeleff  
Ann Chadwick and  
Tom Reid  
Relaxation Station  
Kim Requa  
Rexville Grocery  
Skye and Sally  
Richendrfer  
Douglas and Susan  
Rinald  
Peter Robertson  
Gary Rowe  
Doug and Donna  
Rowell  
Cynthia Scaringe  
Joventina Schaffner  
The Scott Collection  
Seattle Mariners  
Seattle Sonics  
Serendipity Gallery  
Dan Shea  
John and Rose  
Sibley  
Skagit River Boutique  
Skagit River Traders  
David Skurdahl  
Robert Smethurst  
Helen Snyder  
Kristi Spinnie  
The Stall Imports  
Roy Stanley  
Stan and Paige  
Wal-Mart Oak Harbor  
George Welch  
Wells Fargo Foundation  
Don Wick  
Gene and Sandi  
Willett  
Linda Wovod  
Troy Wright  
Dallas and Darlene  
Wylie  
Carl Young and  
Anne Hodgin
Endowments Help Sustain Scholarship Support

Financial sustainability is a critical key to accessing higher education. Skagit Valley College students for years to come will receive financial support thanks to endowment gifts from many generous SVC Foundation donors.

Endowments create a strong foundation for scholarship sustainability. This type of donation is specifically given to the SVC Foundation to maintain in a long-term, interest-bearing account. Each year a portion of the individual endowment fund is given out in scholarship awards as specified by the donor.

Gifts of cash, real estate, bequests and other assets can be used to create a scholarship endowment that helps support students who may not otherwise be able to complete a college education.

Please contact the Skagit Valley College Foundation to find out how you can help maintain financial sustainability for SVC students. Increasing access to higher education through scholarship support helps sustain a thriving community.

Fay Shane, Director
Skagit Valley College Foundation
2405 East College Way
Mount Vernon, WA 98273
360.416.7717
fay.shane@skagit.edu