



Key employers who help Portland Community College educate and train a skilled workforce are honored during a recent Employer Partnership Awards celebration. Pictured, (from left) are Mark Goldberg, associate vice president of PCC Workforce Development and Continuing Education; Kali Thorne Ladd, PCC board chair; Jesse Brough, owner of Blessing Landscape; and PCC President Mark Mitsui.

Helping PCC Build Workforce

Employers educate and train for future jobs

Portland area employers helping Portland Community College educate and train a skilled workforce for future jobs and careers were honored at the college's first Employer Partnership Awards.

The April 11 ceremony at the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry was a chance for PCC to shine a spotlight on the efforts of three organizations, Blessing Landscapes, Intel Corporation and Oregon Tradeswomen, Inc., which were named partners-of-the-year in the categories of small business, large business and government/non-profit.

"For PCC to effectively prepare its students for employment opportunities and careers in an

ever-changing work environment, we need strong partnerships with local employers," said Marc Goldberg, associate vice president of Workforce Development and Continuing Education at PCC.

Employer partnerships at the college include employers who hire PCC graduates; offer work-based learning opportunities for students such as internships, co-ops, clinical rotations, or apprenticeships; serve on career technical education advisory committees at the college; and participate in PCC's many job fairs, among other methods and models.

Collectively, such partnerships, "Expand the pipeline of trained workers, ready to enter the workforce," said PCC President Mark Mitsui. "This helps to bolster the 'middle class' -- education is the bridge to opportunity for our students."

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