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Bioenergy Program Gains Momentum



In addition to visiting a local wastewater treatment plant, earlier in the quarter, Bioenergy Operations students toured Pacific Ethanol's Columbia River facility in Boardman, Oregon. While there, four groups focused on experiencing a close-up of how industrial-scale distillation, heat exchangers, cooling towers, and boiler systems function. [Read More.](#)

South Puget Sound CC College Spotlight

The Horticulture Technology program at South Puget Sound Community College has been responding to the training needs of the regional horticulture industry since 1966. Thanks to an active industry advisory committee and continuous input from employers the program has been proactive in modifying curriculum and developing new training opportunities to best meet the emerging needs of industry. [Read More.](#)



High School Interest Cards and Statistics

The Agriculture Center of Excellence partnered with Washington State FFA and the FFA Officers to reach out to current High School students. The number of high school students interested in Agriculture has increased since last year! Out of more than 800 students visited in a classroom by the Washington State FFA Officers in fall 2013, 75% of them are interested in Agricultural Higher Education and Careers. [Read More.](#)

2014 Precision Agriculture Seminar

This year's Precision Agriculture Seminar was a great success! With full registrations, and new workshop speakers, the Center ran another popular event for Industry partners and Student participants to learn the newest information on the technologies of today while getting a sneak peak at what's coming in the future for farming technology! [Read More.](#)



2014 FFA Ag Mechanics CDEs

FFA teams were challenged in: structural welding; identifying machine parts on John Deere equipment; calculations of salt-affected soils; electrical troubleshooting and wiring; 12 volt wire repair on small engines, calculations for amortization, depreciation, compound interest etc. on farming equipment; and a written exam tying the entire contest together. [Read More.](#)

Washington Agriculture & Natural Resource Educators (WACANE)

The main focus of the January 2014 WACANE meeting was the "Round Table Discussion" chaired by Bill Griffith, Agriculture Center of Excellence Director. The proposed location of the Summer Conference is Central Washington University or Wenatchee Community College. [Read More.](#)

W A C A N E

Washington Association of Collegiate Agriculture and Natural Resource Educators

ACE Reflections

The Center has seen a flurry of activities during this past winter season. We receive a lot of positive comments and some very helpful suggestions from our SBCTC (Stat Board of Community and Technical Colleges) site visit in November. [Read More.](#)