

A seasoned educational leader, Dr. Kristen Jones brings 30 years of experience demonstrating her passion for community colleges and commitment to student success, open communication, collaborative partnerships, and leadership infused with inclusiveness, compassion, and empathy.

Dr. Jones's experience spans four different community colleges in three states. Starting her career at Linn-Benton Community College as a classified employee, over the next 19 years she also worked as faculty, manager, and dean. After completing her Ed.D. in Community College Leadership at Oregon State University, Dr. Jones moved to Montana to serve as the Vice President of Instruction and Student Services at Flathead Valley Community College (FVCC) in Kalispell. While at FVCC, she provided administrative oversight for creation of a Licensed Practical Nursing program at Blackfeet Community College and led the redesign of the developmental math program and the creation of a new Agriculture program.

A desire to return to the Pacific Northwest brought Dr. Jones to North Seattle College (NSC), where she was hired as Vice President of Instruction. During her tenure at NSC, Dr. Jones led the development of a 10-year Instructional Master Plan, provided leadership for the development of a faculty-led Instructional Program Review process, and co-chaired an 18-month faculty negotiations process resulting in a successful contract.

Most recently, Dr. Jones worked as Provost at Bellevue College (BC) overseeing Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, Continuing Education, and Institutional Effectiveness. In this role, she supported and enhanced BC's commitment to diversity, equity, social justice, environmental sustainability, and international education. As executive sponsor of BC's Achieving the Dream initiative, Dr. Jones collaborated with a large team of campus stakeholders to create and implement a vision for the institution's goal of improving student access and completion and eliminating opportunity gaps for Black/African American and Latinx students. While at BC, Dr. Jones also served as Acting President and Acting VP of Human Resources.

Dr. Jones was raised as the oldest of seven children on the outskirts of Juneau, Alaska where her family's house faced the ocean and the mountains and was backed by the forest. A deep love of nature and her rural roots are partly what draws Dr. Jones to the Peninsula College presidency. In her spare time, Dr. Jones enjoys hiking and biking with her spouse, Doug, as well as reading, practicing meditation, and baking.