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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Sept. 19, 2014

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## BMCC staff to kick off the year with 'Students First = Student Success' theme

PENDLETON, Ore. – Blue Mountain Community College will welcome faculty and staff back from summer with its annual Pre-Service on Monday and Tuesday (Sept. 22-23) next week, and will instill a mindset of “Students First = Student Success” to help students achieve academic victories during their time at BMCC.

BMCC's Pre-Service is a time for all college staff to be together and set the stage for the coming year, said Cam Preus, BMCC president. Ramona Holcomb, the education director for the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) will serve as the Pre-Service keynote speaker.

“I really look forward to having this time with all of our staff together in one room,” Preus said. “It’s a great way to motivate our folks as we start a new year, and our ‘Students First = Student Success’ theme will guide us all as we help students achieve their goals.”

Several BMCC staff will also take part in a strategic planning session during Pre-Service, which has been an ongoing process since last year.

Starting Wednesday, Sept. 24, BMCC will resume its regular five day a week schedule. Throughout the summer, the college was closed on Friday.

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