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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Bellevue College student Eric Pattison joins Washington Student Achievement Council

Olympia— Governor Inslee has appointed Eric Pattison, a sophomore at Bellevue College, to the student member position on the Washington Student Achievement Council. Pattison, who is replacing outgoing student member Rai Nauman Mumtaz, will join the council at its [next meeting](#) on October 15 at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, WA. The student council member serves a one-year term.

“Eric is an outstanding addition to the council,” said Dr. Gene Sharratt, Executive Director. “He is a strong advocate for students, and his voice will be instrumental in improving educational attainment in Washington State.”

Pattison’s interest in public representation and advocacy sparked while volunteering for Peter Steinbrueck’s mayoral campaign. One of Pattison’s priorities is to ensure students have access to a quality education, which he believes “is a path to success, friendships, and above all else, happiness”.

Pattison plans to pursue a doctorate in engineering and is an accomplished table tennis athlete, taking first place for a second time at the 2015 U.S. Open in the Wheelchair Open division. He is the first student member to serve a term on the council while attending one of Washington’s community and technical colleges.

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About the Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC): As a cabinet-level state agency, WSAC provides strategic planning, administrative oversight and advocacy to support increased student success and higher levels of educational attainment in Washington.

The nine-member Council includes five citizen members (one is a current student) and one representative from each of Washington's four major educational sectors. The Council proposes improvements and innovations to meet the evolving needs of students, employers and the educational community. In recognition of the economic, social and civic benefits of public education, the council advocates for increased financial support and civic commitment to ensure a thriving Washington.

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