Donors pledge \$50,000 per year in support of Bristol Community College's offshore wind programs

"Bristol Community College's Foundation is pleased to announce a generous donation of \$50,000 per academic year in support of students participating in Bristol's innovative offshore wind programs. The donors of this gift, who wish to remain anonymous, are deeply passionate about renewable energy and, as the offshore wind industry comes to the United States, they purposefully selected Bristol Community College as a gift recipient to encourage more students to enter this exciting and well-paying career field.

The donation will subsidize the college fees of full-time and part-time students enrolled in the college's Certificate of Achievement in Offshore Wind Power Technology and Associate in Science Technology /Offshore Wind Technology programs. The donation is currently supporting the first class of students this summer semester enrolled in these programs.

With the offshore wind sector poised to create thousands of job opportunities across a wide range of disciplines, Bristol Community College's offshore wind programs and its National Offshore Wind Institute (NOWI) play a critical role in developing a strong regional workforce and local infrastructure to support the burgeoning industry and the resulting economic development in Massachusetts. Thanks to our area's natural resource of steady wind volumes, the regional offshore wind industry is developing new projects and attracting international wind energy companies to enter the U.S. market, both of which are spurring opportunities for increased training, recruiting, and hiring of workers to support the industry.

"Becoming part of the offshore wind industry has been some of our most exciting and valuable work here at the college," says Dr. Laura L. Douglas, President, Bristol Community College. "We are thrilled to be able to build the trained workforce that will be supporting local jobs that are coming, and that students are ready to invest their time in learning valuable skills to enter this new sector."

The Bristol Community College Foundation is a 501c3 non-profit organization with the express purpose of raising funds to support the important work of the college. The college's Foundation is supported by its own board of directors and all donations are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law. For information or to support the Bristol Community College Foundation, please visit www.bristolcc.edu/foundation."