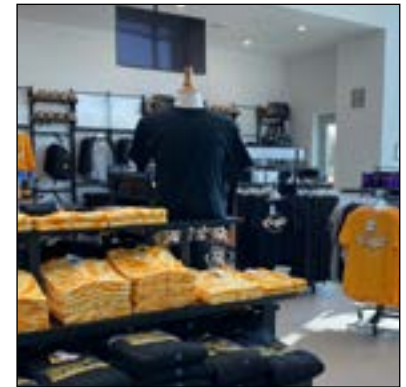


**JULY 2021** *update for faculty & staff***Bill Norris, Bookstore Manager**

## The Taft College Bookstore is NOW OPEN!

On July 12, the Taft College Bookstore and Print Shop re-opened their doors for business in the brand new Student Center back on campus. "It is incredibly exciting to be in here, finally! It is all coming together beautifully," said Bill Norris, Bookstore Manager. Bill credits his dedicated staff and student workers for the stunning displays throughout the store, "They did an outstanding job! Come see what a great space this is!" The ribbon cutting and grand opening of the new Student Center is tentatively scheduled to take place in August.



*Meet the amazing Taft College Bookstore team, left to right: Nicki Alldredge, Kenzie Stearman, Tiffani Holder, and Victor Romero*

**JULY 2021** *update for faculty & staff, page two***Taft College  
Proudly  
Welcomes  
Two New  
Employees****Dr. Damon  
Bell****Interim Vice President,  
Student Services**

**Dr. Damon A. Bell** has nearly 30 years of service in the community college and CSU systems, including the position of Interim President of Contra Costa College and, prior to that, Interim President of Ventura College. Dr. Bell has also served as Vice President of Student Services at three community colleges. He earned his doctorate in Educational Leadership with an emphasis in Community College Leadership from California State University, Fullerton.

Dr. Bell shared a favorite quote from Benjamin Franklin, "Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn."

With over 20 years of service in higher education, **Rebecca Murillo** comes to Taft College from the University of La Verne where she held the positions of Associate Director of Student Recruitment and Associate Director of Admissions. She also has experience as Assistant Director, Interim Campus Director, and Admissions Advisor at Fresno Pacific University. Ms. Murillo earned a master's degree in Educational Counseling and Family-Based Therapy from University of La Verne and another master's degree in Leadership and Conflict Studies (Mediation) from Fresno Pacific University.

**Rebecca  
Murillo****Director, Admissions  
and Records**

Ms. Murillo shared a favorite quote from Dr. Martin Luther King, "The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy."

JULY 2021 *update for faculty & staff, page three*

*Prospective Taft College students can enroll in Fall Semester classes in just a single day on August 11, 2021.*



**SAVE THE DATE!**

## On August 11, COUGAR DAY Will Drive FTES Enrollment in Fall Classes

Until funding sources are exhausted, prospective Taft College students who attend Cougar Day on campus this August 11 will receive valuable incentives to enroll in Fall Semester classes. Prospective students *who qualify* for the California College Promise Grant (Fee Waiver) may receive up to \$500 to purchase books and supplies from the Taft College Bookstore, now on campus. Alternatively, students *who do not qualify* for the California College Promise Grant (Fee Waiver) may receive up to \$500 towards their enrollment fees. But wait, there's more! *Every student* who enrolls at Taft College on Cougar Day will get free lunch in the Taft College Cougar Café in our brand new Student Center! Taft College Director of Admissions and Records, Rebecca Murillo says, "Every prospective student can become a Cougar in just one day! We will walk you through it all, including the application, counseling, financial aid, class registration, and purchasing books and supplies. Applicants should allow four hours to get it all done. Plus, we offer *free parking* on Cougar Day and *every day!*"



**JULY 2021** update for faculty & staff, page four

**Career Enrichment Week  
Courses offered from June  
14 through 25:**

- Learning Acrobat XI
- Learning Microsoft Word
- CalPERS
- Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging
- Business Etiquette: Phone, Email and Text
- Navigating Challenging Situations with Diplomacy and Tact
- Learning PowerPoint for Office 365
- Interpersonal Communication
- Tips for Working Remotely
- Communicating About Culturally Sensitive Issues
- FERPA
- Excel Basics with Adam Bledsoe
- Office 365 Groups
- Organizing Your Office for Maximum Efficiency
- Google Forms Essential Training
- Working with Upset Customers
- Google Docs Essential Training
- Project Management Simplified
- 403(b) and 457(b) Supplemental Retirement Options
- Learning Zoom
- Intermediate Excel: Pivot Tables, IF Statements, Look Ups with Adam Bledsoe
- Publisher Essential Training



## First-Ever Career Enrichment Week Registration Exceeds Human Resources' Expectations

88 Taft College employees participated in the inaugural Career Enrichment Week rolled out from June 14 through 25 to help satisfy the need for specific training from Human Resources. Nearly 50 hours of training were delivered! Feedback was wholly positive with numerous people asking when the next sessions will be offered. The Career Enrichment Committee is now working on a schedule for future sessions. Vice President of Human Resources, Heather del Rosario shared, "Minus a few technological blips, I was quite happy with the turnout!"