

APRIL 2023



Taft College Employee of the Month

Biology Professor **Dr. Greg Golling** (above, left) was named March Employee of the Month. *Congratulations!*

Taft College Hall of Fame Inductee Ron Coomer Receives CCCAA 2023 Hall of Fame Award



On April 13, the Taft College Baseball team and Athletic Director Kanoe Bandy proudly welcomed Taft College 2016 Hall of Fame Inductee Ron Coomer back to the baseball field. On March 29, the California Community College Athletic Association (CCCAA) selected Ron Coomer for its Induction Class of 2023, but Ron had not yet received the actual award. After a warm welcome from Interim Superintendent/President Brock McMurray, Athletic Director Bandy presented Ron with his well-deserved honor.

GO GREG!**MAKE A STUDENT'S DAY**

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Taft College Beta Lambda Zeta Chapter Conducts Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) Induction Ceremony

On April 13, Taft College Psychology Professor, Academic Senate President, and Beta Lambda Zeta Chapter Advisor Dr. Sharyn Eveland proudly welcomed would-be inductees and their families to the Cougar Room for the induction ceremony. *Above:* Dr. Eveland first inducted Beta Lambda Chapter President Jasmine Perez and Vice President Sara Moore. *Below:* in turn, they inducted six new PTK members. VPSS Dr. Damon Bell delivered an inspirational keynote speech!



Taft College Instruction and Career Technical Education Staff Hold Industry Advisory Dinner

Held in the Student Center on April 18, the annual Industry Advisory Dinner welcomed Industry and Education Partners, Community Members, and Faculty, Staff, and Students for a presentation, dinner, and roundtable discussions. *Above:* Professor Michelle Beasley, DSPS Coordinator Janis Mendenhall, Professor Kelly Kulzer-Reyes, Counselor Dr. Vicki Jacobi, amid others, before dinner. *Below:* Counselor Darcy Bogle tries the virtual welding assistant.

**MAKE A STUDENT'S DAY**



Taft College Leaders Attend “Celebrating 50 Years of Title IX” Event at KCCD

Above, left to right: Vice President of Student Services Dr. Damon Bell, Athletic Director Kanoe Bandy, Athletic Secretary Jennifer Edmaiston, Athletic Counselor Tony Thompson (now retired), and Counselor Darcy Bogle attended the milestone event on March 21 celebrating 50 years of Women in Athletics.

Trustee Jeremy Gregory Throws Out First Pitch

On Saturday, April 8, Taft College Trustee Jeremy Gregory threw out the first pitch at a home game. Prior to his official first throw, he got a chance to practice with a player. *He nailed it!* He'll be asked to participate again at another home game in the future.





Kern Coalition Visits Taft College Student Center for Second CERF Meeting in West Kern

On March 15, the Kern Coalition held its subregional collaborative Community Economic Resilience Fund (CERF) meeting with local stakeholders to gather input via surveys and notes for inclusion in a Regional Plan. *Left, left to right:* VP of Institutional Effectiveness Dr. Xiaohong Li, Superintendent/President Brock McMurray, and Trustee Dr. Kathy Orrin.

Sierra College Leaders Visit Transition to Independent Living (TIL) Program

Sierra College Superintendent/President Willy Duncan and his colleagues toured the Taft College TIL Program Facilities on April 6. Staff Members John Dodson, Susan Wells, and Brittany Brown led a tour of and discussion about our program, as Sierra College wishes to duplicate the successful program up north.



This is a monthly publication by the Taft College Office of the President. If you have feedback, comments, or questions, please contact Susan Groveman, Executive Director of Marketing and Community Relations at (661) 763-7942.