

JANUARY 2023



Taft College Employee of the Month

Financial Aid Office Coordinator **Amber Garcia** was named December Employee of the Month. *Congratulations!*

GO AMBER!

Taft College Mathematics Professor Diane Jones Retires after 30 Years of Service



On December 16, our beloved Taft College Professor Diane Jones deservedly celebrated her happy retirement with numerous campus and community members at the Hacienda Grill in Taft. Co-sponsored by Professor Ruby Payne, Admissions and Records Director Tiffany Payne, and Professor Jones herself, the event offered celebrants a full buffet of heavy appetizers, desserts, soft drinks, and a no-host bar and provided ample time to share memories with Diane before the holidays. She promised not to be a stranger. *We promise to hold you to it, Diane! Happy trails to you!*

**MAKE A STUDENT'S DAY**



Taft College Sponsors Free E-Waste Recycling Event Open to Public

From 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on January 7, community members brought obsolete electronic devices to our free, R2-certified* e-waste recycling event held in our Children's Center parking lot. Mobile phones, ink toner cartridges, computers, PC monitors, laptops, TVs, hard drives, printers, calculators, and CRTs were accepted. *Data was securely destroyed.



California Community Colleges

Emergency Conditions Allowance (ECA)

Last fall, Taft College applied, and was approved, for the Chancellor's Office Emergency Conditions Allowance (ECA). This allowance protects colleges from loss of FTES apportionment due to Covid-19, by using 2019-20 apportionment to calculate 2022-23 apportionment, and including this higher 2019-20 FTES in the three-year rolling average to calculate apportionment.

The application required the college to submit detailed plans on student recruitment, retention, completion, community outreach, class scheduling, faculty training, and CVC-OEI status. The college confirmed its ongoing audit and budget status, resources for student basic needs, and more.

Please join us at the February Board of Trustees meeting for ECA updates!



**HEAD SOCCER COACH ANGELO CUTRONA NAMED
2022 CENTRAL VALLEY COACH OF THE YEAR**

Coach Cutrona stated, "I have the best coaching staff. They are my best friends and we are family. I dedicate this Coach of the Year award to the coaching staff and all the players who contributed to a special 2022 season. Without everyone's hard work and dedication, I wouldn't be receiving this personal achievement."





Above, top: Classroom G4 has received **32 new** Dell All-in-One PCs.
Above: Classroom G3 has also received **32 new** Dell All-in-One PCs.



Needed ITS Upgrades Get Funded though CCCCO PPIS Program

The California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office Physical Plant and Instructional Support (PPIS) program is allocating \$840,655,000 across the system in 2022-23. To best use allocated funds to meet specific needs, Districts may choose between physical plant, instructional support, water conservation, and energy efficiency projects. Taft College ITS met with faculty representatives of the Information Technology Committee to develop a 5-year plan to upgrade instructional technology across the campus using PPIS funds. One of the first steps in the plan was to purchase 400 new computers and replace outdated classroom devices. After battling significant supply chain issues, ITS finally received the devices that were purchased. ITS Staff began by replacing 11-year-old ThinkClients in the classrooms. Rafael Andrade and Cole Watkins are working hard to install as much of the new equipment as possible before Spring Semester 2023 begins.

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.

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