

# Board Update

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July 2, 2012

## ***Construction News:***

Consistent progress is being made on the Transition to Independent Living project. Much focus has been placed on phase 2 of the TIL project which includes the creation of a traffic turnaround and new parking lot surface. This portion of the project is scheduled to be completed by August 20th, prior to the start of the fall term. Phase 2 is slightly ahead of schedule as steady progress has continued without any major setbacks. The entire project is still scheduled to be complete in the first quarter of 2013.

Planning continues for dorm renovations and a new Student Center. The dorm project drawings should be going to the state in the next few months. This project is scheduled to start by mid-2013. The Student Center project design should be completed in the next couple of months for review.

## ***Foundation News:***

The 90<sup>th</sup> celebration committee has been busy putting some of the final details on upcoming activities. ***Celebrate Taft College 90<sup>th</sup>*** anniversary is off and running with campus activities that include Community, Faculty, Staff and Students and Alumni. On August 30<sup>th</sup>, we will kick off the year with a Happy Birthday party in the Quad featuring 90 cent hot dogs and a 90 inch cake. The Foundation will launch the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary employee giving campaign at a booth in the quad.

On October 19 there will be a campus "Open House" with classrooms and programs showcasing their programs to the community. On October 20 at 2:30 pm we will unveil the Al Baldock Cougar Sports Center. This event will be followed the annual Taft College Foundation Alumni and Friends Rib-Eye Cook Out.

The Foundation Board met on June 27 and approved a new Expenditure Policy, established terms of office as detailed in the Foundation By-Laws, approved an increase to the Administrative Fee (from 2% to 3%), and received both a Financial Report as well as an Investment Report. The Foundation Board also approved a new member, Mr. Ernie Pineada, Wells Fargo Community Banking President.

## ***Taft Correctional Institution and Transition to Independent Living Graduations:***

On Wednesday June 21<sup>st</sup> the College awarded 7 Associates degrees and one certificate in the fall of 2011 and spring of 2012 at Taft Correctional Institution camp facility. Here's the breakdown:

Fall: 1 AA - Social Science  
Spring: 3 AA - Social Science  
3 AS - General Business  
1 Certificate in Accounting

The 7 degrees were awarded to 6 individuals (as you noticed, one of the students notably received two degrees--an AA and an AS). We had only 5 students participate in the ceremony because one student had been released between the time he earned his degree and the ceremony. Also at the Camp facility, there were 12 GED diplomas received. Nine students were able to participate in the ceremony.

The sixteenth ***Transition to Independent Living Graduation*** was held in the Taft College Quad at 6:30 pm on June 28th. Twenty-two students graduated this year, with ten of them returning for an eleven-month career internship. Our keynote speaker was Mr. Ron Anderson, who is a parent, a CPA and a magician. He gave a wonderful talk about the "magic" of letting go. Our student speakers included Rebecca Dye, Rodrigo Sevillanos, and Morgan Butler. A reception was held in the Cougar room immediately following the ceremony. Earlier in the day the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual awards luncheon was held at OT's Cookhouse.

#### ***Summer and Fall Enrollment:***

We have completed most enrollments for summer 2012. Summer enrollments are up from 1,116 in 2011 to 1,463 in 2012 representing a 31% increase. This is mostly due to a huge increase in the .5 to 5.5 unit category with an increase headcount in 2011 of 702 to a headcount of 1,006 in 2012. Fall registration is strong as well and is slightly ahead of this point in time as compared to fall 2011. There are currently 2,471 students registered for fall 2012 classes. As of June 27, 32% of the students are enrolled in 6-11.5 units, and 45% of the students are enrolled in 12-25 units. The fall term begins August 27, 2012.

#### ***Budget Update:***

Both Governor Brown and the Legislature have arrived at an agreement over the FY 2012-13 State Budget. And the Governor Brown signed the budget into law by July 1, 2012. As is well known, the budget is contingent upon passage of the Governor's November Tax Initiative. Should the Initiative pass, \$213 million will be allocated to the California Community College system (CCC) in two components. The first component, \$50 million, will be available for access/restoration of prior budget cuts. The second component, \$163 million, will be used to pay down deferrals. For the first time the Community College system has been provided a revenue guarantee in the form of assurance that the Redevelopment Agency (RDA) funds that are replacing State General Fund money in the budget will be guaranteed and CCC's will not suffer budget reductions if the RDA revenue does not materialize. Final budget details and analysis should be available in July. We will be submitting a 2012/13 adopted budget to the Board on September 13, 2012.

#### ***Academic All- Conference Awards- Spring 2012:***

Taft College had 17 spring student athletes recognized for academic All- Conference awards. Student athletes must have excelled academically with a grade point average of 3.0 or above, on a 4.0 scale in at least 12 semester units in order to earn a semester award. This does not include physical education activity units. Baseball had 8 award winners and Softball had 9 award winners.

#### ***Other News:***

- On June 22<sup>nd</sup>, the College hosted a workshop presented by Cal State Fresno's Community and Economic Development Division and its "San Joaquin Valley Rural Development Center. A second workshop is being planned for September 2012.
- I have instituted weekly meetings with key college staff as well as a weekly joint meeting with the Vice Presidents. The meetings are useful in establishing goals, solving problems, and generating ideas. I have also established Quarterly Manager Meetings to share information, answer questions and enhance communication and teamwork.

- Brown Armstrong, our new audit firm, will be on campus in July to begin the 2011-12 annual District audit. Rex Phinney, CPA will be on campus in early August to begin the 2011-12 GO Bond audit. Both audits are expected to be complete and presented to the Board prior to December 31, 2012.
- I met with Javier Reyes, field representative for Assembly member Shannon Grove. I also participated the Kern Economic Development Corporation's annual meeting at the Tejon Ranch. I was elected to the Kern EDC Board of Directors and look forward to serving as one of two education representatives on this Board.
- Sam Aunai held an Energy Technology Advisory Committee meeting on June 25. Industry support continues to be very strong with this program and there was a good turnout of representatives from industry at the meeting.
- We are developing a new process for checking out District equipment. A new form is being developed and will be ready for use in time for the Fall 2012 term. We are also developing a new process for planning and communicating District events. The new process will ensure that everyone who needs to know about an event is informed in advance and that the event is properly marketed both on and off campus. This should also be in place for the fall 2012 term.
- I have scheduled a number of meetings with community and business leaders in July to discuss Taft College plans and share information about items of mutual interest. I will also attend the Bakersfield State of the City luncheon on July 10<sup>th</sup>.

That is it for now – wishing you an enjoyable 4<sup>th</sup> of July Holiday and looking forward to seeing you at the July 12 Board of Trustees meeting!