

*Dr. Daniels' monthly update for faculty and staff*



## 22nd State of The County Dinner and Address

On January 29 at the Kern County Fairgrounds, Supervisor Leticia Perez, Chairwoman of the Kern County Board of Supervisors, gave the keynote address at the 22nd State of The County Dinner to a sold-out crowd, including Taft College Superintendent/President Dr. Debra S. Daniels, Board President Dawn Cole, and Trustee Billy White. Kern Economic Development Corporation (KEDC) and The County of Kern co-sponsored the event celebrating this year's many achievements in Kern County. "This has been a banner year," said Richard Chapman, CEO, KEDC.



*Above left:* Leticia Perez, Chairwoman of the Board of Supervisors, delivers the keynote address at the 22nd State of The County Dinner.  
*Above right:* Kern Economic Development Corporation CEO Richard Chapman

## Seventh Annual Triple Play Dinner and Auction Benefits Taft College Athletics

On January 17, Taft College Athletics' Seventh Annual Triple Play Dinner and Auction featured Guest Speaker Tom Gamboa (*right*), a self-proclaimed "baseball lifer." Taft College Superintendent/President Dr. Debra S. Daniels and many lucky guests were treated to a fascinating evening full of baseball stories at the West Side Recreation Gymnasium.





## Taft College Governance Council Holds Professional Development Session—Collegiality in Action

On January 29 in the Cougar Room, the Governance Council held the professional development session, "Collegiality in Action." Presented by Community College League of California President Dr. Larry Galizio and State Academic Senate President Dr. John Stankas, the discussion was designed to strengthen relationships and better our communication skills.

*Left, left to right:* Community College League of California President Dr. Larry Galizio, Academic Senate President Dr. Sharyn Eveland, State Academic Senate President Dr. John Stankas, and Superintendent/President Dr. Deb Daniels

## Lincoln Junior High School Tours Taft College and Attends Bakersfield Symphony Orchestra

On February 1, 60 Lincoln Junior High School students visited Taft College for a campus tour, ate dinner, and took a school bus to hear a spectacular performance of the Bakersfield Symphony Orchestra. Superintendent/President Dr. Debra S. Daniels welcomed students personally and sent them off in groups of 10 for tours of the Chevron Innovation Lab, Dental Hygiene Clinic, and Art Gallery.



*Dr. Daniels' monthly update continued, Page 3*

## Lincoln Junior High School Tours Taft College *continued*

Taft College Administrators and Staff guided six groups of students around the campus, being sure to answer students' questions about Taft College programs. Upon students' return to the Cougar Room for a chicken dinner, Dr. Daniels made a special announcement, "After you graduate from TUHS, every single one of you can attend Taft College for two years for FREE through our TC Promise Program."



*Above:* Adjunct Art Professor Nyoka Reed awaits the final tour group of 10 Lincoln Junior High School students who unknowingly may be harboring the next Picasso among them.



*Top:* Dental Hygiene Clinic Technician Michele Matthews begins her discussion with Lincoln Junior High School students about the dental hygiene profession and how to best maintain healthy teeth and gums. *Above:* In the Chevron Innovation Lab, Dean of Instruction and CTE Dr. Jessica Grimes greatly inspires Lincoln Junior High School's next generation of health professionals, scientists, and engineers.

Dr. Daniels' monthly update continued, Page 4



Top: The Bakersfield Symphony Orchestra gets all set up for its "Great Romantics" concert on February 1. Above: Lincoln Junior High School students receive parting goodie bags before boarding the school bus that would take them to hear a Bakersfield Symphony Orchestra concert.

## Lincoln Junior High School Tours Taft College *continued*

As the words of Dr. Daniels' stunning invitation sunk in, the students and their teachers began to contemplate what this truly meant. First, however, the students had to finish dinner and attendance had to be taken. It was then time to board the school bus, and as they did, they received parting goodie bags from the college. Very soon, they would be privileged to be listening to the Bakersfield Symphony Orchestra perform the "Great Romantics" concert featuring Rodrigo's Concierto de Aranjuez for guitar played by Grammy-winning soloist, Jason Vieaux. Indeed, it was a grand afternoon and evening for all who participated.

Dr. Daniels' monthly update continued, Page 5

## Chevron Gives \$156,000 to Expand Allied Health & Sciences Laboratory at Taft College

On February 5, Chevron's San Joaquin Valley Business Unit Vice President Billy Lacobie gave Taft College a \$156,000 check to help expand the college's Allied Health & Sciences Laboratory. President Dr. Deb Daniels stated, "By doubling the college's science offerings in anatomy and physiology, more students will be able to reach their education goal."



Above: Chevron's San Joaquin Valley Business Unit Vice President Billy Lacobie presents Taft College Superintendent/President Dr. Debra S. Daniels with a check for \$156,000 to expand the college's Allied Health & Sciences Lab. *Standing, left to right:* Trustee Billy White, Chevron's Billy Lacobie, Trustee Dr. Kathy Orrin, Board President Dawn Cole, Chevron's Patty Canessa, Dr. Deb Daniels, Chevron's Megan Lopez, Foundation Executive Director Sheri Horn-Bunk, and Chevron's Gina Pettit.

*Right:* Taft College Board of Trustees President Dawn Cole awards a Resolution commending EOPS' 50 Years of Student Success to EOPS/ CARE/CalWORKS Coordinator Lourdes Gonzalez at the Taft College Board of Trustees Meeting on February 12.



## Taft College Board of Trustees Commends EOPS' 50 Years of Student Success and Service

On February 12, the Taft College Board of Trustees adopted a Resolution acknowledging EOPS' 50 Years of Student Success, citing EOPS' long-term success with a statewide retention rate of 88% and a statewide completion rate of 81%, consistently the highest of any large-scale student support program.