



Board of Trustees Report



July 26, 2022

Dr. David M. Johnson, President

We are excited to announce that *Oakland Promise* and Merritt College are co-hosting a Student Resource Day on Tuesday, August 2nd from 1:00pm to 3:00pm. *Oakland Promise* is an organization that emerged from a commitment by residents in 2016 to provide every child in our city with the support, coaching, and incentives needed to succeed from the cradle to college and career achievement. To this end, we will be providing information and resources from Admissions and Records, Financial Aid, Sankofa, First-Year Experience, Roots Health Clinic, Cal Fresh, EOPS, and other categorical programs. We will also offer lunch and raffle prizes to the 120 students and their families who have signed up so far. The event will be held in the Huey P. Newton Student Lounge, and we hope to see you there!



Continuing with the theme of community engagement, Merritt College is partnering with the Oakland Private Industry Council, Alameda County Social Services Agency, and the Strong Native Workforce Project to put on a series of *Enrollment Pop Up Fairs*. The next two events will be held on Thursday, August 11th and Friday, September 9th in East Oakland and West Oakland respectively. While Merritt will focus on getting students registered for classes and providing information about our programs, attendees can also avail themselves of COVID-19 testing, health/mental health/dental services, housing programs and rental assistance, financial literacy support, legal and

immigration services, child care programs, and employment training opportunities. Please stay tuned for more details.

Finally, I want to congratulate one of our amazing faculty members for achieving an historic feat. On Tuesday, July 19, 2022, Ms. Felicia Wanzo Bryant, an instructor in our Fire Science Program, became the first African American woman to be appointed as Fire Marshal for the City of Oakland. Ms. Bryant's career in the Oakland Fire Department spans nearly two decades, and the honor bestowed upon her is well-deserved. She will be teaching Emergency Medical Technician courses this fall term, and we consider it an honor and privilege to count her as one of our faculty members!



Merritt College puts students first. Through our rich educational programs, we foster a culture of equity and inclusion that empowers students to achieve their greatest potential and make meaningful contributions to their respective communities and our global society.