



College Update
January 11, 2016

Welcome to Spring 2016!

Over the break, we heard preliminary feedback from the site visit team chair, representing the Higher Learning Commission. While her report is not yet official, it seems to indicate that a potential area of improvement for us will be the program review process. Not surprising, since we had already identified “improve program review processes” in the implementation plan under Strategic Priority III: Operational Excellence. In addition to this feedback, a few calls for enhanced transparency in our budgeting processes were noted, which we also plan to address in the near future. We should receive official news from our HLC liaison soon and we’ll keep you posted on the results.

On Thursday, we will be holding our traditional in-service sessions. The first will be at 8:00 am in the Pioneer Room on the Trinidad campus. This will be followed by a similar session at 1:00 pm in the Auditorium at the Valley campus. Please plan to attend one of these two meetings.

In the next few days, two “State of the College” addresses will be given to the communities we serve. The first presentation will take place on Tuesday evening in the Auditorium at the Valley campus. On Wednesday evening, this talk will be repeated at the Massari Performing Arts Center on the Trinidad campus. These sessions are open to the public, so please feel free to come, if you are so inclined. My goal is to provide a little history, discuss our current state of affairs, and show a glimpse into the future of Trinidad State.

As you may already know, several individuals will not be returning to the College this spring. Of course, Larry Hunter happily retired in December, evidenced by his very broad smile. Also not returning are Deb Krumm, Robert Miller, Michelle Black and, most recently, David Dominguez. Just before break, we began advertising for a Housing Director to occupy the apartment in Huggins Hall, which we hope to fill soon. Until then, we will continue to maintain an enhanced security presence in housing, including an overnight guard. The Dean team is working hard to finalize instructors-of-record for several courses and we are enrolling students as quickly as we can. Only one week to go until classes begin again!

As always, if you have questions, concerns or information to share, please let me know.

Hope you have a great week!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Carmen M. Simone'.

Carmen M. Simone,
President