



College Update
February 1, 2016

Already February!

The Fun and Friendraiser event held annually by the TSJC Educational Foundation is scheduled for February 20th. The Foundation Board has decided to focus on a specific College program for this and perhaps future events, with Gunsmithing chosen as the theme this year. Invitations are planned for program graduates, in hopes that some will return to celebrate with us. This year, over 650 alumni were included. Please consider supporting the efforts of the Foundation by attending this event. For more information, please contact Toni DeAngelis, Executive Director of the Foundation, at 719-846-5520.

As we focus on growing enrollment for the next fiscal year, we have discussed several strategies related to athletics. Within the next few weeks, a coach for our fledgling cross country teams will be selected and recruiting will begin in earnest. We hope to attract ten men and ten women to compete in this program, which will be based in the Valley but offered to students on both campuses. In addition, we have asked each one of our coaches to support additional walk-on student-athletes, raising the total number of participants from 140 on seven teams this year to right around 200 on nine teams next year.

Last Thursday, Lori Rae Hamilton (Dean of Instruction / Director of Nursing) and Lynette Bates (Vice President for Academic Affairs) traveled to Atlanta, GA for the Evaluation Review Panel meeting regarding the Fall 2015 accreditation cycle of the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN). This is the second stage of the process to attain initial accreditation for the nursing program – the first stage was the site visit we hosted last semester. Following a panel discussion that focused on the information gathered on the program to date, the verdict was *unanimous* in support for our program moving forward to the third and final stage of the process. That final stage is the Board of Commissioners meeting, scheduled on March 3rd and 4th in Atlanta, GA. We will be notified sometime in April of the results of this March meeting. The team effort will continue, so please stay tuned!

Our partnership with the Center for Urban Education on the Equity Scorecard Initiative is now entering the fourth month of a yearlong project. We are ready to begin strategic observations on both campuses. The evidence team – composed of faculty members and staff from student services, human resources, and institutional research – will begin reviewing policies, student-instructor interactions, syllabi communications, and course outcomes, before noting possible impacts on students in developmental mathematics. Along with this, we will be exploring testing data, advising, and the course-placement processes to determine any particular effects on minority student populations.

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