



College Update
March 9, 2015

Happy Monday!

Todd Cotton has been hired as the Director for Communications on the Valley campus. Todd will report to me in a role that parallels Greg Boyce on the Trinidad campus. His responsibilities will include distance learning technology, website maintenance, public relations and educational technology training. As circumstances unfolded over the last several weeks, it became clear to me that recent transitions had weakened our ability to provide essential communication and customer service to students and staff members alike. Todd will wear several hats, as many of us do, and he will undoubtedly become an asset to the College. He begins on a temporary basis on March 23rd, with full-time employment beginning July 1st. Partial funding from the STEM Cooperative Grant has made this position possible. Please join me in welcoming Todd aboard.

This week brings another State Board for Community Colleges and Occupational Education (SBCCOE) meeting in Denver. The Board will hear updates on proposed legislation and receive background information for tuition-setting purposes. They will also be given the results of the System-wide Climate Survey conducted last fall. The participation of TSJC employees in this survey was strong, with 63% classified, 81% administrative / professional-technical, and 49% faculty member response rates. The collective results for TSJC are included with this message.

On Wednesday, one of our students will be publicly recognized as a member of the 2015 Phi Theta Kappa All-Colorado Academic Team. This year, we are honoring Mary Carpenter, an outstanding student who has excelled with us. She and I will participate in a luncheon ceremony with legislators, Board members, and College and System staff, including System President Nancy McCallin. We are proud of Mary and wish her well with her transition to the University of New Mexico next fall.

On Thursday, we will hold Open Forums on each campus. While these events had been originally set for Thursday, they were temporarily moved to Tuesday, March 17th due to unavoidable conflicts on my calendar. Fortunately, the conflicting meetings recently changed again, allowing us to move the Open Forums back to our original date – Thursday, March 12th. Valley campus, 11:45 am (potluck); Trinidad campus, 4:00 pm (cookies). Hope to see you there!

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