



College Update
March 16, 2015

It's Spring Break!

The Faculty Promotions and Appeals Committee met recently regarding promotions for several individuals. Please join me in congratulating Angie Medina on her promotion from Assistant to Associate Professor of Nursing. In addition, both Jack Wiley and Bonnie Ortega have added "Full Professor" to their Associate Dean titles. The final candidate for consideration was Dean Debbie Ulibarri. Debbie has finally been allowed to move from Associate Professor to Full Professor after being denied that opportunity ten years ago. Congratulations, all!

As you know, our goal is to submit a balanced budget to the Board this June. To that end, the Leadership Team will begin holding preliminary budget meetings this week. If you have items that should be considered as we build the next budget, please pass that information along. For example, we are anticipating site visits for the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) and the Accreditation Commission on Education in Nursing (ACEN) this fall, which are not normal, annually-occurring expenditures. Thank you for your assistance in identifying these types of one-time budget items.

Two student representatives from the Colorado Community College System (CCCS), including Danielle Armstrong from the Valley campus, are returning today from a trip to Washington, DC for the National Student Advisory Conference. Danielle was invited to participate because of her deep involvement in the State Student Advisory Council (SSAC), where she serves as the legislative liaison. Representatives from all fifty states have been discussing the challenges and changes within Pell grants, student loans, and the proposal for free community college nationwide. Danielle has also been invited to present her experiences to the Alamosa Rotary Club, which will be a wonderful opportunity for community members to see just how involved our students truly are!

The grand prize winner at the 2015 Student Art Exhibition at Gallery Main in Trinidad was Krystyne Lovato. Her entry, entitled "Old Morley Church", brought her notoriety and a certificate good for full in-state tuition for one Art course courtesy of the TSJC Educational Foundation. The opening reception on Friday evening was well-attended and the students did an outstanding job in both studio preparation and gallery presentation. I'm not sure who was more proud – the individual students, their professor – Vilas Tonape – or me.

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