



College Update
April 7, 2014

Happy Monday!

Last week was tough, yet, we have so many reasons to be proud. Our robotics team hit the sand with A.L.L.E.N. on Saturday. Our shooting team placed 16th in our debut at nationals. Our Student Life Coordinator in the Valley – Jeni Carter – is being recognized this week as *the best* student advocate in the System. While we are sad at the recent loss of twenty colleagues through layoffs, we are coming through adversity with our heads held high.

Today, we (Gary Ashida, Bryan Bryant, Kerry Gabrielson, Debbie Ulibarri, Lynette Bates and I) are holding another budget meeting. We are working to streamline our chart of accounts and set a realistic budget for next year. Until our budget is balanced, we are operating in crisis mode. Please know that our goal is to develop a much more inclusive budget process once we are stable.

On Tuesday, the Presidents Council meets in Littleton and the SBCCOE meets on Wednesday in Westminster. Meeting materials can be found here: <http://www.cccs.edu/blog/tag/april-2014/>. Tuition will be set during this Board meeting. The staff recommendation being presented is a 4.5% increase for in-state students, with a 6.0% increase in the nursing differential. Please remember that we have Open Forum sessions planned for Thursday morning at 7:30 in Trinidad and for noon, with a potluck, on that same day in the Valley.

We will have a new organizational structure within Academic Affairs beginning July 1. Our two Deans, Debbie Ulibarri and Lynette Bates, will continue to report directly to me, splitting the responsibilities of our former Vice President between them. There will be four Associate Deans assisting them, replacing the efforts of most of our fifteen Division Chairs. The Director of Nursing, Lori Rae Hamilton, will continue reporting to Lynette Bates. All other programs and departments will report through one of the Associate Deans. Four individuals have agreed to take on these leadership roles. In Trinidad, Keith Gipson will be the Associate Dean for Career and Technical Education. On the Valley campus, his counterpart will be Jack Wiley. Bonnie Ortega will be the Associate Dean for Arts and Sciences in the Valley and Shari Schroepfer will have a similar role on the Trinidad campus. This team of seven will no doubt do magnificent work in Academic Affairs!

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