



College Update
May 5, 2014

Finally, Finals Week!

All of our hard work culminates on Friday with commencement, scheduled for 10 am in Trinidad and 6 pm in Alamosa. Many of our students are graduating – a momentous event worth celebrating! Some plan to transfer, some are entering the world of work, and a few have no idea what comes next. Regardless of next steps, you have given them a springboard to the future. Thank you so much for truly caring about our students.

As you know, the Valley campus expansion project is in the process of being “value-engineered” by the architects previously working on the project (D2C Architects). The plan for a new Valley campus was ranked at #46 with the legislature and it has *not* been funded this year. This delay gives us time to reassess our approach to the project, perhaps allowing us to better integrate it with the expansion project. We will be completing a sidewalk project on the Trinidad campus this summer in compliance with an ADA audit. This project was funded quite a while ago by restricted state funding. We also anticipate that the HVAC system in the Mullen building will be upgraded through legislative funding, pending review of final revenue levels for the State.

Due to recent lay-offs, resignations and retirements, our structure is being streamlined. My goal had been to share an organizational chart – as Dee Dee Raap would say, the “golden organizational chart” – with you prior to commencement. Unfortunately, it is not quite yet set. We are still talking with people to determine the best approaches in some areas, although many of the instructional pieces have been set and previously shared. Thank you for your insights and your patience as we chart the future for TSJC.

We received word late on Friday afternoon that the date for our next comprehensive visit from the Higher Learning Commission has been set. Please mark **December 7, 2015** on your calendars. Yes, we only have 19 short months left to prepare for this two-day visit. Soon, we will be reenergizing our efforts and asking for your participation. ***This is our chance to shine!***

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