



College Update
August 15, 2016

Welcome to In-Service Week!

Several individuals recently accepted positions at Trinidad State. Last spring, **Lauren Martin** (Cross Country Coach) and **David Hardman** (Student Life and Housing Director) joined us. More recently, two full-time faculty members, **Bob Philbin** (Physics) and **Ben Longfellow** (English), were added. They were followed by **Peter Freeman** (Women's Soccer Coach), **David Dominguez** (STEM Outreach and Academic Coach) and **Randy Sonnemaker** (Controller). Soon, we hope to also identify a replacement (or two) for the Recruiting Department.

The summer semester culminated last week with another graduation ceremony. Twelve offenders housed within the Trinidad Correctional Facility received Entrepreneurial Operations certificates after spending many hours with instructor LiAnn Richardson. Without the typical tools of the outside world, including internet access, these men successfully completed a program that should enable them to change their lives. Convicted felons face steep recidivism rates and those who pursue education while behind bars are far more likely to become positive contributors to society upon release. Thank you, LiAnn, for your commitment to these students.

As you know, we are embarking on new athletic adventures in the Valley this year. This has challenged us in many ways, and we quickly realized that our student-athletes would benefit from additional campus housing options. We explored hotel scenarios in Alamosa, including a partnership with the San Luis Valley Regional Medical Center, but, in the end, the best solution for us was a renewed collaboration with Adams State University. We are pleased to announce that a handful of Trinidad State students will be living in the residence halls at ASU this fall.

Late last spring, Dennis Hollingsworth (Structural Trades III) announced his plans to retire within the next year. More recently, Director Mantelli made the decision to join him in retirement, effective January 2017. Both Dennis and Louie have given us the gift of time to determine the next steps forward within Physical Plant. Please join me in thanking them both for their commitment and their combined decades of service to TSJC. We will miss them terribly!

As always, if you have questions, concerns or information to share, please let me know.

See you at one of the two campus in-service sessions this week!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Carmen M. Simone'.

Carmen M. Simone,
President