



College Update  
September 8, 2014

Happy Monday!

As you may have seen in your email last week, we are implementing a new “Employee of the Year” selection process. Please take a few minutes this week to nominate a colleague (or two or three) for this recognition. You have until Friday afternoon to complete this first stage of the process. We have many great people here at TSJC who deserve recognition, so please help us identify them.

We received some rather unfortunate grant news late last week. Our submission into the Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs) competition under Title V was *not* among those funded. In all, 9 cooperative and 29 individual grants were awarded; none of them were from Colorado institutions. We will carefully review the feedback received to revise our next submittal, which focused on professional development, library improvements and the creation of two faculty resource centers.

This week, the State Board for Community Colleges and Occupational Education (SBCCOE) will be meeting on the Rampart campus of Pikes Peak Community College. The CCCS presidents will spend Tuesday preparing for this event at Presidents Council in Denver with Dr. McCallin. One of our students – Lance O’Dowd – will be recognized during the Board meeting as the System outstanding student for September. Lance is a welding student from the Valley campus. If you are interested in further details regarding the Board meeting, the work and regular session agendas are posted online at: <https://www.cccs.edu/blog/tag/september-2014/>

While enrollment is improving, we are still lagging the benchmarks set last year. Headcount currently stands at 1,608 students (down 10.2%), with an annualized FTE of 590.13 (down 7.5%). On the Trinidad campus, we have about 40 more student-athletes in the halls, but the loss of the Southern Colorado Lineman program and the late start at the local school district have hampered our efforts. On the Valley campus, enrollment of concurrent students is ongoing and the loss of several off-campus programs, such as Construction Technology and Fine Woodworking, has hurt us. In addition, recent changes in the nursing curriculum, specifically the shift from a 2:1 clinical ratio to 3:1, lowered the number of credit hours taken by nursing students. The final session for CCCOnline begins October 6<sup>th</sup>, which may give us a much-needed bump.

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

Hope to see you at the Open Forum sessions this week on Thursday!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carmen M. Simone".

Carmen M. Simone,  
President