



College Update
October 26, 2015

Happy Monday!

This past weekend, we hosted the SoCo BEST robotics competition in Scott Gym. Teams from Branson, Hoehne, Primero, Raton High School, South Conejos School District, Swink, and Trinidad Middle School built robots for the competition. Dozens of volunteers, including many of your colleagues, made this event not only possible, but highly successful. Many thanks to the steering committee – Jenn Swanson, Ben Webster, Debbie Ulibarri, Krystalee Moreno, Shannon Shiveley, Alicia Massarotti, David Dominguez, Mike Alderette, and Johnathan Montoya.

Last week, Toni DeAngelis, Associate Director of Financial Aid, resigned from the College. It seems that she has been hired by the TSJC Educational Foundation Board of Directors as the next Executive Director of that organization. We will definitely miss her contributions, especially those on behalf of our veteran students. We have engaged the services of Karla Nash, Financial Aid Director for the System Office, to assist us with the distribution of her duties.

During one of the Open Forum sessions last week, Tori Eckes asked how she could submit ideas to grow enrollment. **Great question!** Following that meeting, we created a virtual suggestion box on our webpage (<http://www.trinidadstate.edu/about-trinidad-state/administration/presidential-welcome>). Items submitted through this system can be completely anonymous, if desired, and can cover any topic. Suggestions appear in my email box from only one address (no-reply@trinidadstate.tv). Thanks to Tori for the idea and to our webmaster, Todd Cotton, for his quick implementation.

On October 6th, an email message from Bryan Bryant announced the temporary closure of our campus bookstores. Shortly thereafter, the Valley bookstore reopened, thanks to the diligent efforts of many people onsite at that campus. Unfortunately, the Trinidad store remained closed until last Friday. Over the weekend, Louie Mantelli assisted us and agreed to take on responsibility for the future operations of both bookstores through Facilities. Please join me in thanking Louie for his quick action and please accept my personal apology for any inconvenience and stress these temporary closures may have caused. Hours are still limited, so you may want to check ahead before visiting.

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 black ink that reads 'Carmen M. Simone'.

Carmen M. Simone,
President