



College Update
November 24, 2014

Happy Monday!

This weekend, Kerry Gabrielson and I drove to Prescott, AZ together to attend the NJCAA National Soccer Championships. We joined family and fans to cheer on the Trojans during their semi-final match on Saturday afternoon. Although our team ended the day with a loss, they played with a great deal of heart. They represented TSJC well, both on and off the field.

As you have probably heard by now, the Valley Automotive program received outstanding recognition from the Higher Learning Commission as a result of the recent site review of Ortega Middle School. Here is a quote from the report submitted by the reviewer:

Students describe the faculty as “awesome,” “great,” “care about us and what we learn.” Students appreciate the faculty and their availability, their coaching and advising, their support of student learning and success in this automotive trade. Students and faculty interactions during the visit demonstrated a collegial, personalized, and relaxed environment conducive to creating a culture and climate of learning that is commendable. Student learning and competence in this trade, their questions, concerns, and ultimately student success are first and foremost in the work of the faculty.

Last week, we sent out proposed changes to Procedure 3.10 (Faculty Job Description) for feedback prior to further consideration by College Council. While the state-mandated minimum of 40 hours per week was included, the “on and off campus” verbiage from Board Policy 3-80 was not specifically mentioned. Please know that this will be remedied prior to final adoption. We understand and support the need for flexibility in the teaching role.

This is the time of year for quiet reflection, gratitude, and celebration with family and friends. Please enjoy your time away from work, whether it is for the entire week or just a day or two.

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

Hope you have a great Thanksgiving break!

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

Carmen M. Simone,
President