



College Update  
December 9, 2013

Finally, it's Finals Week!

The State Board for Community Colleges and Occupational Education (SBCCOE) will meet this week on Wednesday in Denver. As always, the full agenda is available online, but highlights include an audit presentation by KPMG and several contract approvals.

<http://www.cccs.edu/SBCCOE/Schedule.html>

On Tuesday afternoon, the rural presidents are gathering in Denver for a sustainability discussion with Dr. McCallin and Dr. Bohlen. Otero Junior College, Northeastern Junior College and Morgan Community College will be sharing best practices at this meeting. Several of us have expressed concerns that our tuition levels are not competitive compared to neighboring states, creating a recruiting challenge for our institutions. We hope to discuss this topic in more detail together. Following this meeting, we will have a President's Council conference call, where we will be discussing issues related to adjunct faculty, electronic transcripts, and budgets.

Earlier this semester, the students serving as resident assistants (RAs) at the Trinidad campus shared pizza and conversation with me. On Monday, the Valley students will have a similar opportunity, dubbed "*Pizza with the Prez*" by our marketing gurus. This is a great opportunity for students to share their experiences with me; my goal is to gather ideas for institutional improvement from them.

It's my pleasure to announce the TSJC Classified Employee of the Year. Karen Harrell, Administrative Assistant for Physical Plant, was chosen by her peers for this honor. Please join me in congratulating Karen on this well-deserved recognition!

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

Hope you have a great finals week!

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

Carmen M. Simone,  
President