



College Update  
December 14, 2015

Finally, Finals Week!

And finally, we've moved past the most recent visit from the Higher Learning Commission! In my opinion, the review could not have gone better, thanks to the committed preparations of many people. **We should all be proud.** Regardless of any shortcomings that may be mentioned in the final report, we were well-prepared and ready. Of course, every institution has items to address and goals yet to be met. Without that, we would be stagnant organizations that quickly become irrelevant to our students and our communities. Rest assured, this will *never* happen at Trinidad State!

The week culminated last Friday with a ceremony in Colorado Springs for our Rocky Mountain Line Technician program. We celebrated with the family and friends of twenty-five students who represented the fifteenth graduating class of this unique program. As usual, the day included a lineman rodeo, which resulted in several job offers for our newly-minted graduates. What a great reminder of our mission and the perfect way to end a very long week.

Last week, Ron Martin submitted his official letter of resignation. His last day with us will be December 31<sup>st</sup>, but of course, we will be on break after December 24<sup>th</sup>. Ron has accepted a new position with the Trinidad School District, where he will be responsible for district IT operations. Please know that we hope to work with them to negotiate an arrangement that will keep Ron with the College on a limited (but much needed) basis. Please join me in congratulating Ron and in thanking him for his willingness to explore continued service to the College.

Several of our retirees joined us last Thursday to reminisce about their past contributions to the institution. We are fortunate to have a dedicated team of people at the College and our retirees are an important part of our extended family. The cake and conversation were enjoyable and the recent retirees each received a special recognition from Governor Hickenlooper. We plan to make this an annual event, so please mark your calendars for next December.

Fall 2015 is rapidly drawing to a close; this will be the last update until January 11<sup>th</sup>. As always, if you have questions, concerns or information to share, please let me know.

Hope you enjoy a restful, well-deserved upcoming break!

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

Carmen M. Simone,  
President