



College Update
February 12th, 2018

Happy Monday!

We are very pleased to announce a successful conclusion to our search for a Biology faculty member. We had a strong pool of candidates and, with the support of the Foundation, we have hired not just one, *but two*, outstanding individuals. Dr. Kevin Walker holds a PhD in Biological Sciences / Ecology from the University of Ottawa. He joins us from Texas and will serve on the Trinidad campus. Mr. Galen Morton joins us from New Mexico, where he is currently a PhD candidate in Exercise Science at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque. He will teach at the Valley campus. Please join me in thanking the Foundation for their generous support!

On Tuesday, the College Presidents will gather for our monthly meeting with System President Dr. Nancy McCallin in Denver. At lunchtime, we will recognize the Classified Staff and Administrative / Professional-Technical Employees-of-the-Year from our colleges. As you will recall, Mathilda Westerman and Shannon Shiveley were chosen by you for these honors last fall.

On Wednesday, the State Board meets in Denver. We will hear several updates, including the progress made to date on the legislation to allow us to offer the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree at our System colleges. We will pause at lunchtime to recognize Faculty Employees-of-the-Year, including Julie Kotalik, who teaches Massage Therapy and Holistic Health at our Valley campus. Julie was chosen by you to represent Trinidad State last fall. Selected adjunct instructors will be honored in Denver at a luncheon in April.

As has become our custom, we will hold Open Forum sessions on each campus this week. These gatherings provide opportunities for you to hear more about what is happening at the State and System levels, along with College items of interest. The Trinidad Open Forum is scheduled for Thursday at 4:00 pm in the Library Faculty Room and the Valley Open Forum will take place at noon on Friday in the Auditorium. Hope to see you there – we'll have cookies and door prizes.

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 cursive script that reads 'Carmen M. Simone'.

Carmen M. Simone,
President