



College Update  
April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018

Happy Monday!

Congratulations to Bernadine DeGarbo for her transition from Student Affairs to her new role within the Communications Department, located in the Boyd building. One of her primary duties will be working with the public as the voice of Trinidad State on the telephone and we are thrilled she has chosen to take on this critical support role. Please join me in thanking Bernadine for her commitment to the institution and for her flexibility in our continuous team effort to make this an even greater place.

Last week, our Controller – Alana Best – announced her intention to leave Trinidad State. Her last day with us is Wednesday, April 4<sup>th</sup> and we are currently advertising for an accountant to take her place. Best wishes, Alana, on your journey to Albuquerque become a Certified Public Accountant. You are going to be great and we will miss you!

As you also saw last week, we are currently advertising for a new 0.75 FTE position to support payroll processing, funded by the departure of Elise Russell. Blanca Menendez, who does outstanding detailed work, has agreed to transition into a new role supporting our accounting functions in cashiering and student accounts as Ruth Blasi continues to advance her career with new opportunities within the Business Office. Nellie Barros has agreed to continue her training and support work for us, now more than five years post-retirement. ***Thank goodness for Nellie!***

During the last Open Forum Sessions, held right before Spring Break, we announced our intentions to offer the new RN-to-BSN completion degree at Trinidad State. We are especially excited to have Lori Rae Hamilton, Dean of Instruction and Director of Nursing, involved in the curriculum development for this new program with our sister institutions. We are waiting for more details from the System Office, but we have already quietly discussed this pathway with Adams State. It was important that they hear it from us, as we value our many partnerships with the University. We are in agreement that our institutions need to continue to support training for nurses, though perhaps in different ways, as the shortage we face in Colorado is critical.

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