



College Update
April 17, 2017

Happy Monday!

Both the Presidents Council and the State Board met last week in Denver, with our annual Rising Star recognition on Tuesday and an Adjunct Instructor celebration on Wednesday. Trinidad State honored Ainsley Ridgeway (Student), Prospero Dalimot (Student), and LiAnn Richardson (Instructor). The Open Forum session last week on Thursday in Trinidad was well attended; the Valley campus session will be held this week on Monday afternoon. Please come for cookies, conversation, and perhaps a door prize.

Tonight, we are holding an induction ceremony for our Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) chapters at the Community Center in La Veta. This is the first joint ceremony for our inductees and it should be a great experience for the students. Ben Webster and Cliff Wiening, who serve as faculty advisors, have worked hard with our students to organize this event. It would be great if you could come and celebrate with us. To signify their accomplishments, students who have earned PTK recognition plan to wear special medallions during our graduation ceremonies next month.

As you saw last week, one of the newly adopted strategic priorities for Trinidad State is ***Engaging Faculty and Staff*** and one of the goals supporting this priority is ***Invest in People***. To strengthen our institution, we must grow enrollment and that will definitely take investment. ***Later this week, you'll see more details about how we plan to move the needle on this priority.*** Building our capacity within the faculty ranks to better serve our students will be key.

It is deeply humbling to share my success with you at being elected to represent our region in an initiative of the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC). My role will include guiding the professional development activities for new college presidents through the Presidents Academy Summer Institute. The election results will be officially certified next week at the annual convention, which is being held in New Orleans this year. While this necessitates another trip for me, it is well-worth the investment, as it brings national recognition to Trinidad State.

Due to travel, the next College Update will not arrive in your boxes until Monday, May 1st. As always, if you have questions, concerns or information to share, please let me know.

Hope you enjoy the remaining days of April!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Carmen M. Simone'.

Carmen M. Simone,

President