



College Update
July 17, 2017

Happy Monday!

Last week, Vice President for Business and Finance Bryan Bryant accepted a position at Red Rocks Community College. While we are *all* saddened to lose him at Trinidad State, this is a wonderful advancement opportunity for Bryan. Over the three years that he has been with us, we have streamlined and stabilized our budgets and strengthened our financial position. Much of this framework was originally shaped by Gary Ashida, *but it has been Bryan who brought it to reality*. Just as Gary supported Bryan, Bryan hopes to pay it forward, too. For that, we are grateful.

To quickly begin our transition, we have asked Vice President for Campus Operations, Lorrie Velasquez, to consider additional responsibilities. As you know, she is already accountable for Information Technology, Facilities and Human Resources. She will now also guide the Business Office. Effective August 1st, she will transition into an expanded role as ***Vice President for Administrative Services***. Please join me in thanking Lorrie for taking on this challenge. With this shift, we will once again have three Vice Presidents serving the College. Once Lorrie has settled into her role, we will determine what – if any – additional support may be required, with a goal of expanding the number of full-time, regular faculty members at the institution whenever feasible.

Summer enrollment currently stands at 356 students and 68 full-time equivalents (FTE). This is down from last summer, when we ended the term with 388 students, for a total of 72 FTE. This is a 5.5% deficit. By comparison, five of our sister institutions are touting increased enrollments, with the Community College of Denver leading the way, up nearly 5%. Eight colleges, including us, are lower – with Morgan Community College and Otero Junior College each down by over 20%.

On August 1st, a team from the Educational Advisory Board (EAB) and the System Office plan to join us to kick-off our work with *EAB Navigate*, a software package that provides students with individualized guidance from entry through completion. As you know, the System is adopting Guided Pathways, a national success movement to streamline curriculum and enhance student support. Implementing *EAB Navigate* is one strategy to do so. At Trinidad State, Guided Pathways has been branded [Smart Path](#). Details are on our website, including the [video](#) shown last spring.

Until next time, if you have questions, concerns or information to share, please let me know.

Hope the last remaining bit of summer is enjoyable for you!

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

Carmen M. Simone,
President